

U.N. pushes for Afghan settlement

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The U.N. special emissary trying to negotiate an accord to permit withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan will begin what could be the final phase of his exercise next month, diplomatic sources said on Tuesday. They said the official, Under-Secretary General Diego Cordovez, was proposing to make visits to Afghanistan and Pakistan in the second half of December for intensive talks looking towards a final Geneva meeting on the question. Dec. 15 was mentioned as a likely date for Mr. Cordovez's departure for Kabul. If so, his talks with Afghan leaders would follow a summit meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, during which the Afghan question is expected to be discussed. The U.N. General Assembly voted on Nov. 10 to renew its call for Soviet troop withdrawal. The United States has been pressing for a settlement and is being kept informed by Mr. Cordovez on the substance of his talks, which began in June 1982 but have recently recorded only limited progress. Diplomatic sources said the latest Geneva meeting, in September, was unproductive but that there now was hope for results in a final push.

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Genscher and Saud discuss 598

RIYADH (AP) — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher on Tuesday discussed with Saudi Arabian officials means of enforcing U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 calling for a ceasefire in the Gulf war, diplomatic sources said. The sources, who spoke on condition they not be named, said the Gulf war was top of the agenda of talks held by Mr. Genscher with his Saudi counterpart, Prince Saud Al Faisal. Mr. Genscher, who has been federal foreign minister and deputy chancellor since 1974, has visited the kingdom twice in the past. He arrived on Monday on a three-day visit as part of a swing that will take him to Iraq and Jordan. Shortly after arriving, Mr. Genscher and Prince Saud presided over the dedication of the new West German embassy premises in the Saudi capital. The sources said that the two foreign ministers also discussed Middle East topics such as the kingdom's establishment of full diplomatic relations with Egypt.

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King congratulates Syrian president

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday contacted Syrian President Hafez Al Assad by telephone and congratulated him on the occasion of the anniversary of the 1970 corrective movement in Syria. President Assad also congratulated the King on His Majesty's birthday and expressed best wishes to him on the occasion.

King sends good wishes to Oman

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday sent a congratulatory cable to Sultan Qaboos Ibn Sa'id of Oman on the occasion of Oman's National Day. In the cable, the King wished Sultan Qaboos health and happiness and the Omani people further prosperity under the Sultan's leadership.

Sharaa briefs Syrian cabinet on summit

DAMASCUS (Petra) — Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa on Tuesday briefed the Syrian cabinet on the outcome of the extraordinary Arab summit, held in Amman on Nov. 8. At a cabinet session chaired by Premier Mahmoud Al Zu'bi, Mr. Sharaa noted the positive decisions taken at the summit and explained Syria's commitment to these decisions, in the light of the explanations made by the Syrian delegation during the conference's deliberations and discussions. Mr. Sharaa said the participation of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad had played an important role in serving the goals of the Arab Nation and its decisive issues.

Saudi population put at 12 million

JEDDAH (Petra) — A statistical report issued on Tuesday put the total population of Saudi Arabia at 12 million. The report said that Saudi Arabia had 2.5 million students attending some 15,000 schools, institutions and colleges, in addition to seven universities throughout the Kingdom. The report also said that there were 400,000 civil servants and 2211 hospitals and health centres, in addition to 1,386 pharmacies and 87 post offices.

Ceausescu to visit Egypt

CAIRO (R) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu will pay an official visit to Egypt later this month, a government statement said on Tuesday. Mr. Ceausescu last visited Egypt in October 1983.

Yeltsin in hospital

MOSCOW (R) — A Soviet spokesman said on Tuesday that Boris Yeltsin, former Moscow City Communist Party chief ousted last week, was in hospital. He denied widespread rumours that Yeltsin had died or was seriously ill. "There are various rumours, but as you know I cannot comment on party affairs," said Gremitsikh, deputy chief of the Foreign Ministry's information directorate, told a news conference.

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King inaugurates Irbid university, urges focus on quality of education

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday inaugurated the Jordan University for Science and Technology (JUST) and called on Jordanian universities to improve the quality of education in the Kingdom rather than depend on a large number of graduates for achieving development and prosperity.

Delivering a speech at the opening of the new university in Irbid, the King said the future of the Kingdom depended on the present generation of students receiving education at universities.

"We can see hints of this future and the fate of these generations through the present level of education, its rules and curriculum," the King said. "The present is our guide to the future which will be determined by these students."

The King warned: "There is no

good in a nation that boasts numbers... overlooking good preparation and good quality and high standard."

He said that despite encouraging the expansion of higher education, "we are more concerned that this kind of education is joined by those who are capable of joining it... and that those capable of joining are provided with a high level of education and a proper intellectual environment... so that they will respond to this high standards of education."

"Thus," the King added, "we will be able to graduate those whom we can trust to lead this nation in all aspects, educational, industrial, agricultural, political, intellectual, technical and other fields."

His Majesty pointed out that "nations develop and prosper by the intellectual, scientific and moral levels of its citizens... and not with the numbers alone. Our aim is to combine numbers with good quality."

The King expressed hope that JUST, which is the Kingdom's fourth university, would be "the new link with its sister universities — Jordan, Yarmouk and Mu'ta... to complement the chain of scientific edifices and centres of excellence in our countries."

The King said he looked forward to the day "when our Arab Nation will be on the same par or close with developed nations... taking from them and giving to them."

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Ceasefire observed in Sidon

SIDON (Agencies) — Ceasefire patrols toured the streets of Sidon on Tuesday, a day after Palestinian fighters clashed with Lebanese militiamen in the town in bordering highlands.

Schools were closed for a second day in Sidon, provincial capital of South Lebanon, after hundreds of students were trapped in the daylong fighting that left eight people killed and 45 wounded.

Three schools around the Palestinian refugee camp of 'Ain Al Hilweh were caught in the cross fire. One of them had gaping holes after receiving direct rocket-propelled grenade hits. Windows were shattered and glass shards littered the school's playground.

Long queues formed at bakeries and gasoline filling stations, reflecting public fears that hostilities might resume.

Monday's street battles pitted fighters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) against the Nasserite Popular Liberation Army (PLA), according to an AP dispatch. But Reuters reported that the clashes involved fighters of the breakaway PLO faction or Abu Nidal and the PLA.

A final ceasefire took hold at sundown after PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat telephoned instructions from Baghdad to his Sidon commanders to "put an immediate end to the bloodshed and coordinate with our Nasserite brothers," AP said.

Joint patrols, made up of the military police of both organisations, then took charge of enforcing the truce in Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

"Fighting has stopped but it is still very tense... shops and schools in the area around the camp are shut because people fear battles might flare again," said one resident quoted by Reuters.

Five people, including two members of Abu Nidal's Fateh Revolutionary Council, have been killed since clashes first erupted on Sunday, Reuters said.

The PLA, which controls Sidon, is backed by Syria. Traditionally allied with the Palestinian movement, the militia nevertheless has armed men from entering Sidon itself.

The Amal militia has been locked in a "camps war" with PLO fighters in Lebanon for more than three years.

Five joint checkpoints were set up on Tuesday around 'Ain Al Hilweh and other areas of the fighting.

Mauritania joins Arab states to resume ties with Egypt

NOUAKCHOTT, Mauritania (Agencies) — Mauritania on Tuesday announced it would reestablish diplomatic relations with Egypt, ruptured in 1979 following a separate peace accord Cairo signed with Israel.

The announcement by the Foreign Ministry brings to eight the number of countries that have reestablished relations with Egypt since the Arab League summit in Amman last week. Member nations decided at the meeting that countries could undertake a mending of relations with Egypt on a bilateral basis.

Other countries that have reestablished relations include the United Arab Emirates, Iraq, Morocco, Kuwait, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and North Yemen. Sudan, Oman and Somalia were the only Arab League members to retain formal relations with Egypt in 1979. Jordan and Djibouti resumed ties in 1984 and 1986 respectively.

The official Nouakchott statement said Tuesday Mauritania was restoring ties because of the

need for unity among Arab countries.

Boutros Ghali, Egypt's minister of state for foreign affairs, told reporters on Tuesday that "no conditions were attached" by any Arab League member to the resumption of relations.

Dr. Ghali, speaking to reporters after meeting with Soviet Ambassador Gennady Zhuravlev, said the resumption of ties "bolsters Arab solidarity and serves Arab causes... it is in everybody's interest."

Mr. Zhuravlev termed the restoration "positive action that leads to greater Arab solidarity and unity of ranks."

Saudi Arabia's top diplomat in Egypt raised his country's flag atop the building housing the Saudi mission on Tuesday for the first time in more than eight years.

The mission became an embassy after the Saudi government issued a statement Monday night restoring diplomatic relations with Cairo.

Two Syrian soldiers shot dead in Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — Gunmen in a speeding car shot and killed two Syrian soldiers in west Beirut Tuesday, police said.

The police report said the gunmen, riding in a white Peugeot, sprayed the soldiers with rifle fire and sped away. The shooting occurred at 11 a.m. (0900 GMT) as the soldiers walked through the Zokak Blatt residential neighbourhood.

"One private died instantly and the other died on the way to the American University Hospital," the statement said. The names of the victims were not disclosed.

Witnesses, speaking on condition of anonymity, told AP the Syrians deployed foot patrols in west Beirut after the shooting.

There was no immediate comment from the Syrian army command on the killing of the soldiers, attached to a 7,500-man force that deployed in the western sector of the capital in February, seeking to end militia anarchy.

The shooting occurred after Syrian troops had stepped up security across west Beirut following two bomb blasts in the past seven days. The bombs, at the international airport on Wednesday and in the lobby of the American University Hospital on Saturday, killed 13 people and wounded 110.

Pedestrians and motorists were being thoroughly searched at Sy-

rian checkpoints across west Beirut. Lebanese policemen strengthened security at government buildings, banks and restaurants following the two bombings.

Interior Minister Abdallah Rassi appealed to the population in a statement Tuesday "to report any suspicious looking object" to the police.

"Every citizen should be a guard and should help police and the regular forces to confront this wave of bombings," Mr. Rassi said.

The latest shooting raised to four the number of Syrian troops killed in west Beirut since the February deployment.

Syria also maintains 25,000 troops in east and north Lebanon under a 1976 peacekeeping mandate from the Arab League.

In a separate incident near Batroun, northern Lebanon, a Syrian soldier was accidentally shot and wounded by his comrades when they fired on a Lebanese soldier trying to flee from a checkpoint, police said. The Lebanese was wounded in the leg.

In a separate incident involving the Syrians, the Voice of Lebanon radio station, which is run by the right-wing Falange Party, said Syrian soldiers manning a checkpoint in north Lebanon detained about 50 Lebanese army soldiers for four hours on Wednesday.



His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday lays the cornerstone for a medical sciences complex at the Jordan University of Science and Technology which he inaugurated on Tuesday and, accompanied by

Her Majesty Queen Noor and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, later tours the various sections of the university (Petra photo)

Mubarak and Fahd praise outcome of summit

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Tuesday praised His Majesty King Hussein as an Arab leader with a "deep sense of Arab belonging and capable of contributing effectively towards uniting Arabs."

Mr. Mubarak praised King Hussein's efforts before and during last week's extraordinary Arab summit in Amman and said His Majesty had made great efforts to bring closer views of the Arab leaders during the summit.

The Egyptian president expressed satisfaction over the positive results of the summit.

President Mubarak also called for regular Arab summits to settle "marginal" differences.

"When the Arabs meet, they have room to solve differences. This is what happened in Amman," he said referring to last week's Arab summit.

Mr. Mubarak, speaking to reporters during a tour of regions outside Cairo, said the Amman summit did not solve all problems but paved the way for their settlement.

He called differences between some Arab states, which he did not name, as marginal but stressed that they would leave the Arab World "fragile" if left unresolved.

Summits, he said, were "the ideal method to solve our differences because there are many ambitious designs in the region." He did not elaborate.

In Riyadh, King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia said Monday that the consensus reached during the summit in Amman was the best evidence of the good intentions of brother Arab leaders, "who proved to the whole world that Arab Nation is one body and one goal and that Arabs are very much attached to each other to the extent that such a link will never be severed."

King Fahd was speaking at a Saudi cabinet meeting. The cabinet expressed deep satisfaction at the outcome of the Amman summit, saying that the resolutions adopted at the summit "are designed to enhance the concept of Arab solidarity and collective Arab work."

In Oman, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf Ibn Alawi said that the Amman summit "constitutes a new turning point in the history of Arab solidarity."

In a statement to the Abu Dhabi-based Arabic daily Al Ittihad, Mr. Ibn Alawi described the Arab move to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt as a positive step.

The crown prince and prime minister of Kuwait, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, has called for the readmission of Egypt into the 21-member Arab League.

The call was made in an interview with the Paris-based Arabic service of Radio Monte Carlo which was broadcast Monday. Sheikh Saad said Egypt should be readmitted because of the leverage it can exert both regionally and internationally.

Kuwait last week became one of the first Arab states to resume diplomatic relations with Egypt.

Iraq reports blunting Iranian ground assault on central front

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said on Tuesday it had repulsed an Iranian offensive on the central sector of their warfront and Tehran said Iraqi warplanes raided a nuclear plant in southern Iran.

An Iraqi military communique said three Iranian infantry battalions attacked Iraqi positions 120 kilometres east of the capital Baghdad early on Tuesday and were beaten back with heavy losses.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the Iraqi air strike and accused Iraq of violating "international conventions" by attacking the unfinished nuclear plant in Bushehr, killing several employees.

In an apparent reference to the same raid, INA said Iraqi jets carried out "destructive strikes" on a "chemical production complex" in the Iranian port of Bushehr.

It was believed to be at least the fifth Iraqi air strike since March 1984 on the 1,200-megawatt plant, which had been under construction by a German firm for several years before the revolution took power in Tehran in 1979 and closed it down.

The Iranians said last March that they had moved "fissionable material" into the plant, warning that further bombings by the Iraqis could result in "the same radiological consequences as Chernobyl," a reference to the Soviet plant where an accident spread massive radiation in April 1986.

Officials of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna said earlier that they did not know whether the Iranian claim of fissionable material in the plant was true, because no on-site inspection had been made.

The plant is 60 kilometres inland from Bushehr, a coastal port on the Gulf.

INA quoted Iraqi President Saddam Hussein as saying the raid had "foiled one of the filthiest and dirtiest Iranian intentions against the Arab Nation."

"In a telegram sent to the commander of the Iraqi air force, President Hussein said he had received with great pleasure" the news of the raid, the news agency said.

It also quoted a war communique as saying Iraqi warplanes destroyed a Hawk surface-to-air missile battery on Iran's key Kharg Island oil terminal.

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Peres: Reagan willing to commit successors over Mideast peace talks

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said on Tuesday that President Ronald Reagan had offered to commit key aspects of U.S. foreign policy beyond his own presidential term if Israel accepted an international Middle East peace conference.

The present administration is ready to reach with us a memorandum of understanding about the nature and the limitations of an international conference, the nature and the prospects for the ongoing aid to Israel, economic and military in the future, if we shall open the doors to go ahead and negotiate peace in the Middle East," Mr. Peres told Jewish fund raisers from abroad.

An aide to Mr. Peres said a memorandum of understanding was a document binding U.S. policy from one administration to the next.

A memorandum conditionally pledged the United States since 1975 not to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the aide added.

A spokesman for Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who opposes Mr. Peres' proposal for an international conference, said Mr. Shamir knew nothing of an offer from Washington but that a new memorandum would be irrelevant "because such a conference will not exist."

The Israeli government has been deadlocked for months over the conference proposal. Mr. Shamir argues a conference would force Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories.

A conference is backed by the Arab states, the PLO and Western Europe. Its participants

would include Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States — the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

Mr. Peres, who described the Reagan administration as probably the most friendly Israel ever enjoyed, said: "I don't know who the next administration will be, but I wonder if it will be as friendly as the present administration... should we not utilise a big friendship?"

The memorandum would bind the United States to continue backing Mr. Peres' view that an international conference would lack the power to impose a solution in the area, an aide to Mr. Peres said.

Mr. Peres said the idea of a

(Continued on page 3)

U.S. and Soviets confident of wrapping up INF pact

GENEVA (AP) — Both sides at pre-summit talks seemed confident Tuesday a treaty to eliminate intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) will be ready when U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev meet Dec. 7 in Washington.

Yuli Vorontsov, the chief Soviet negotiator, said in a Soviet television interview that work on the treaty, about 120 pages, was in its final phase and should be completed by Nov. 23.

Mr. Vorontsov was interviewed shortly before he was to meet with U.S. chief delegate Max Kampelman at the U.S. mission for what U.S. sources said was scheduled to be a final session between the two arms control chief negotiators.

The sources said Mr. Kampelman was to decide during the session whether he would issue a public statement.

Most of the busy day was taken by two meetings between Mr. Vorontsov and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Michael Arma-

cost for discussions on "regional issues."

Officials on both sides said U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze may have to hold a fourth arms control meeting in three months.

Meanwhile, a plan for Mr. Gorbachev to address the U.S. Congress during summit and for Mr. Reagan to appear on Soviet television faces opposition from some U.S. lawmakers.

An appearance before a joint session of Congress is an honour usually reserved for the leaders of democratic allies, and aides to some senators said the plan would meet strong resistance.

The tentative agreement was reached Friday during a meeting between Senate majority leader Robert Byrd and the Soviet ambassador to Washington, Yuri Dubinin.

If Mr. Gorbachev is allowed to address a joint session, Mr. Reagan could deliver an unenclosed, half-hour address on Soviet Television.

Israelis to expel Muslim spiritual leader

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel has ordered the deportation from the occupied Arab territories of a Muslim leader who allegedly distributed cassettes calling on Arabs to attack Jews. Military officials said Tuesday.

Ahmad Abdul Aziz Odeh, spiritual leader of the Islamic Jihad movement in the occupied Gaza Strip, was ordered expelled from the Israeli-occupied territories for his "extremist and inciteful" activities, the officials said.

Mr. Odeh was deported from Egypt in 1975 for belonging to an extremist Islamic group whose members assassinated Egyptian President Anwar Sadat in 1980, the officials said on condition of anonymity.

Jordanian-Egyptian transport committee modifies travel, transport regulations

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Egypt on Tuesday agreed on a number of measures designed to facilitate the movement of passengers and goods between the two countries and to encourage tourism via the Aqaba-Nuweibeh sea route.

At a meeting of the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Transport Committee, the two sides agreed to reduce the fare from Aqaba to Nuweibeh from JD 19 to JD 16 per passenger.

They also decided to extend the time of stay for Jordanian trucks in Egypt to 15 instead of 10

days, thus allowing them more time for changing cargoes. The delegations also agreed to increase the labour force for loading and unloading cargoes in order to facilitate the process.

According to the agreement reached on Tuesday, transit passengers will be allowed to stay 72 hours, rather than 48 hours.

Minister of Transport Ahmad Dahqan and his Egyptian counterpart, Suleiman Metwalli, set Dec. 1 as the date for a meeting of the transport ministers from Jordan, Egypt and Iraq. During

this meeting, the ministers will announce the establishment of the Arab Navigation Bridge Company.

At the beginning of Tuesday's meeting, which was also attended by Jordan's ambassador to Egypt, Hussein Hammami, Mr. Metwalli praised the great efforts of His Majesty King Hussein in ensuring the success of the extraordinary Arab summit in Amman, and his great contribution towards the restoration of relations between Egypt and a number of Arab countries.

Hindawi visits vocational training school for girls

IRBID (Petra) — Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi on Tuesday visited the Al Hussein Secondary Vocational Training School for Girls.

Mr. Hindawi was briefed by the head of the school, Fatimah Al Humoud, on the institution's various departments and vocational specialisations.

A total of 242 female students

are attending courses at the recently-opened school. The courses offered focus on commercial sciences, nursing, sewing and beauty.

Female students from the neighbouring areas of Irbid, Husseini, Sarih, Aidoun, and northern Msar are enrolled at the school, which was constructed at a cost of JD 750,000.

Hamzeh inspects Jerash, Ramtha hospitals

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh on Tuesday made surprise visits to Jerash Hospital and the Ramtha Government Hospital, where he inspected clinics, management buildings, laboratories, operating rooms and patient's rooms, a ministry spokesman told the Jordan Times.

He said the minister demanded that the necessary maintenance procedures for all sections in the Ramtha hospital be completed as fast as possible.

Dr. Hamzeh stressed the importance of abiding by no smoking rules in hospitals, clinics and waiting rooms, as well as following official uniform regulations. Still, he said, the foremost concern for the hospitals was to serving patients and treating them with the best possible care.

Dr. Hamzeh, according to the ministry spokesman, also inspected the Jerash Hospital and visited all of its sections.

Social services office to open in Shobak district

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan decided on Tuesday to open a new office in the southern district of Shobak for offering social services to the more than 10,000 citizens living there.

Mr. Haj Hassan also said that

by the end of this year, four more offices for social services would be opened throughout the Kingdom.

The inauguration of the office in Shobak comes in line with the ministry's policy of extending social services to all citizens.

Education team to design plan for occupied territories

TUNIS (Petra) — A special committee entrusted with designing educational programmes for students in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories on Tuesday opened its 37th session to review progress in its programmes.

The committee, comprising representatives from Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, the Arab League Education, Cultural and

Scientific Organisation (ALECSO) and the Arab League General Secretariat, will also discuss proposals for the production and exchange of educational radio and television programmes and school books.

Jordan's delegation to the meeting will submit a report on the committee's work.

King inaugurates university

(Continued from page 1)

them, and when our sciences with their become arteries pouring into the course of human civilisation instead of remaining as it is now, a burden on others in the field of science and its implementation.

He hoped that JUST would take the "course of higher studies and science research related to the Jordanian society in keeping up with developments and changes it witnessed, ready to confront what may come in the future... open to the world and learning from its experiences while preserving its character."

Addressing the gathering at the university, the King said: "It gives me pleasure to meet you face to face with you after you met with me and the leaders of the Arab Nation through the media during the Arab summit conference. My joy in meeting you complements my joy with the success of that conference that spread harmony in the Arab atmosphere of restoring solidarity and accord."

JUST President Kamel Ajlouni earlier delivered a speech in which he welcomed His Majesty, thanking him for inaugurating the university and his concern with its establishment.

Dr. Ajlouni said that ever since it was conceived by a Royal Decree in September last year, the university had been striving to become, with all its academic and administrative resources, "as (Your Majesty) wanted, a uni-

versity to teach comprehensive science and technology, continuously working to realise your wish."

Dr. Ajlouni reviewed the developments in the establishment of the 12,000-dunum university after finalising work on its infrastructure and general services.

His Majesty earlier toured the university campus amid students who cheered him — "the champion of Arab accord and harmony," and wishing him long life. His Majesty put the cornerstone for a medical science college complex which is expected to cost JD 13.7 million. It will include the faculties of dentistry, pharmaceutical studies, nursing, supporting medical sciences and other sciences. The complex covers 80,000 square metres.

The King left the university amid cheers expressing happiness at his visit. The university was decorated with Jordanian flags and signs welcoming His Majesty.

The ceremonies were attended by Her Majesty Queen Noor, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai who is also chairman of the Higher Education Council, Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi, former prime ministers, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Cabinet members, a number of deputies and senators, the governor of Irbid, presidents of universities and heads of diplomatic missions accredited to Jordan and senior civilian and military officials.

Peres: Reagan willing to undertake guarantees

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memorandum serving as insurance for the future was raised some months ago but he was revealing it only now because "we have to make a major effort to go to the conference."

Mr. Peres says the conference will serve as an "umbrella" under which direct talks could be held with individual Arab states to reach binding peace.

Mr. Peres gave no details of a pledge dealing with aid to Israel, already the biggest recipient of U.S. foreign aid at \$3 billion a year. But aides said a memorandum would bind the U.S. to at least maintain aid at its present level.

The introduction of a memor-

andum binding U.S. policy beyond Mr. Reagan's term was potentially controversial because the 1975 pledge about the PLO was often cited by aides of President Jimmy Carter, who took office in 1976, as hindering their own Middle East policy.

The 1975 pledge, under President Gerald Ford, was formulated by then U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and said Washington would not talk to the PLO so long as it did not explicitly recognise Israel's right to exist, halt "terror" acts and accept U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

The pledge was part of a package whose main point was an Israeli withdrawal from a key

area of Egypt's Sinai desert.

Carter: Peace conference will have to wait

Mr. Carter said Monday an international Middle East peace conference could have to wait until after next year's U.S. elections because the Reagan administration is unwilling to push for it.

"I don't see any real impediment except that Washington is not now willing to really push for an international conference," Mr. Carter said in a television interview. "I think most other people are waiting to see this happen."

Mr. Carter noted that the Arab League unanimously endorsed the international conference idea at the summit in Amman last week.

"I think there is a general consensus that this is the best way to approach the next step to a Middle East peace," he said. "That may have to wait until after the elections in the United States and maybe in Israel next year."

Mr. Carter has been an advocate since his presidency of an international Middle East peace conference.

Mr. Carter said: "I think the inevitability is that the Soviet Union would be involved with us."



SHARIF ZAID LEAVES FOR U.S.:

A Jordanian military delegation, headed by Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, left for Washington on Tuesday for a several day official visit to the U.S.

Field Marshal Sharif Zaid and the delegation were seen off at the Queen Alia International Airport by Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleh and other senior military and Air Force officials (Petra photo)

Ukrainian delegation begins friendship visit

AMMAN (Petra) — An official delegation from Ukraine in the Soviet Union arrived here on Tuesday to take part in the week-long celebrations of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society.

The 22-member delegation is headed by Ukrainian Minister of Transport Pavel Volkove, who also is member of the state's central committee.

The festivities marking the Jordanian-Soviet friendship kick off tonight at the Palace of Culture.

This evening's celebration will include speeches by a representative from the joint friendship society and Mr. Volkove, in addition to an artistic performance by a folkloric troupe from the Soviet Union.

Exhibitions displaying children's artwork, artefacts and

other cultural items, as well as a series of lectures, will take place throughout the week.

The Soviet delegation will also visit a number of the Kingdom's historical and archaeological sites.

The visitors were met upon arrival at the Queen Alia International Airport by the under secretary of the Ministry of Transport, the Soviet ambassador to Jordan and members of the joint friendship society.

Theatre group returns after success at Carthage festival

AMMAN (Petra) — A theatre group from the Department of Culture and Art returned home on Tuesday after staging a successful play entitled "The Time is Ripe for Fantasy" at the Carthage International Festival for Theatre Arts, which concluded in Tunisia recently.

Jordan's delegation won the festival's prize for staging the best

play in the category of professional groups.

Eleven Arab and foreign countries participated in the festival.

The Jordanian group included: Usama Al Miqdadi, assistant director of the Department of Culture and Arts; Hatem Al Saied, director of the department's section for theatre arts; and the play's director, Khalid Al Tarifi.

U.S. and China praise King's efforts, success of summit

By Hamadeh Far'aneh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Roscoe Suddarth on Tuesday commended His Majesty King Hussein's efforts in hosting the extraordinary Arab League summit in Amman, and said the summit was "indeed a meeting of reconciliation and agreement among the Arab leaders."

"The final communique issued unanimously by the participants is very forthright," the ambassador said. "King Hussein deserves a large measure of credit for the successful conclusion of this summit," he added.

"On the tragic Iran-Iraq war, the Arab League communique has solidly emphasised the need for an immediate, negotiated end to this war in accordance with U.N. Security Council Resolution 598; and it has issued a call for action by the international community to end the war."

"This is a positive step which recognises the danger the war poses, not just to the region, but to the international community as well. It's another clear indication of the overwhelming concern throughout the Arab region and the rest of the world to put further pressure on Iran to accept resolution 598 and to end this tragic war," he stressed.

The U.S. ambassador said several Arab states which had severed ties with Egypt have now begun the process of restoring full diplomatic relations with this important Arab country. "This, of course, is another positive development coming out of the Arab summit, and we welcome it," he said.

"As far as the subject of an international conference is concerned, the U.S. position is clear and has not changed," the ambassador continued. "We continue to work with the parties in the Middle East to develop a framework, acceptable to all, that could lead to negotiations for peace. A comprehensive peace settlement to the Arab-Israeli dispute is something we have worked on for years, and it is something we will continue to emphasize," Mr. Suddarth said.

Chinese Ambassador to Jordan Chang Jin also praised the great efforts made by King Hussein to ensure the success of the extraordinary Arab summit in Amman. In a statement issued on Tuesday, the ambassador expressed great admiration of and satisfaction with the positive results of the summit. He voiced his hope that these results would contribute to the achievement of a just and honourable settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and ensure a quick end to the Iran-Iraq war, thus easing the tension in the Gulf region.

Referring to China's response to the summit, Mr. Jin said, "I would like to stress anew that China has always called for uniting Arab ranks; therefore, we support any step designed to achieve this goal."

Mr. Jin also said that his country was interested in seeing a speedy end to the Iran-Iraq war.

NEWS IN BRIEF

PSD chief leaves for Rome

AMMAN (Petra) — Director-General of the Public Security Department (PSD) Lieutenant-General Abdul Hadi Al Majali on Tuesday left for Rome as the head of a PSD delegation. Lt.-Gen. Majali is accompanied by Colonel Ahmad Khasawneh, Colonel Nimer Al Hmoud, and First Lieutenant Fadel Al Hmoud on the visit to Italy, which is expected to last several days.

Iraq, Jordan review ties in oil exploration

BAGHDAD (Petra) — The Iraqi oil minister on Tuesday reviewed with the under-secretary of the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Ibrahim Badran, means for strengthening cooperation in the field of exploration. The two ministers reviewed steps towards implementing an agreement concluded between Iraqi and Jordanian oil companies to prospect for oil in Jordan.

Tunis reception marks King's birthday

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordan's ambassador to Tunisia, Talal Sata'an Al Hassan, on Tuesday held a reception at the Mashtal Hotel here to celebrate His Majesty King Hussein's 52nd birthday. The party was attended by Tunisian ministers and senior officials, members of diplomatic corps in Tunis, Arab League officials, and members of the Jordanian community in Tunisia.

Iraq reports blunting assault

(Continued from page 1)

Reporting the Iranian attack on the central front, the Iraqi military command said only a few of the attackers were able to flee.

Analysts estimated the Iranian force at some 2,500 men and said it had attacked in hilly terrain on the central front, which is always heavily defended.

Iran has foreshadowed a major offensive for the last week and Iraq on Monday said its armed forces were on full alert to crush any attack.

Military sources in the Gulf anticipated that Iran would mount another full-scale offensive on the southern front against Iraq's port of Basra.

The Iranians launched a major thrust towards Basra at the end of

last year, taking heavy losses in edging close to the city on the Shatt Al Arrah waterway between the warring states.

The size of the Iranian attacking force on the central front suggested it was not the start of a major offensive, but more probably a probing attack.

Tehran Radio said later that the Iraqi attack on the nuclear power plant killed 10 people including a West German engineer.

The radio said the raids also injured a number of people and damaged facilities.

It identified the German victim as Juergen Friedrich, of the West German Atomic Energy Enterprise which supervises maintenance of the unfinished power plant.

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Ordinary issue No 355

Drawing of: Nov. 17, 1987

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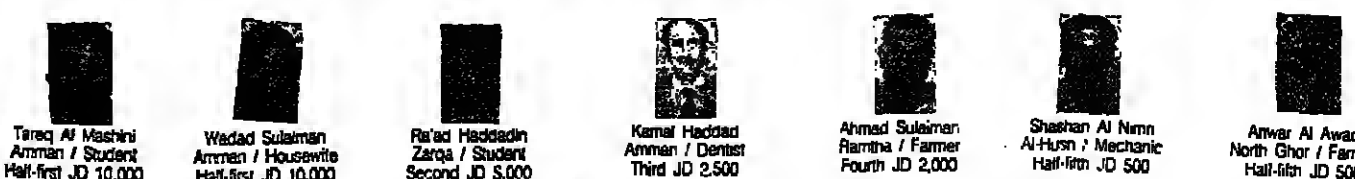
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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation, Established 1975

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Israel's illusions

ISRAELI officials are already gravely misreading or at least propagandising their own version of the basis of the Arab accord and harmony achieved at the extraordinary Arab summit in Amman last week and the ensuing resumption of diplomatic relations with Egypt by several Arab countries, notably the Arab Gulf states. Earlier this week, the Israeli cabinet discussed the outcome of the recent Arab summit and attempted to dissect and analyse its resolution amid reports that the Israeli leaders were entertaining ill-founded notions that, first, by resuming diplomatic relations with Egypt on such a large scale in the wake of the Amman summit, the Arab World was moving towards the Camp David Accords, if not directly, then by implication. Secondly, the Israeli leadership is gauging the Arab perception of the continuing war between Iran and the Arab World as dangerous and threatening enough to cause the Arab countries to rush into any peace solution with Israel. They are making the mistake of concluding that with the eyes of the Arab World diverted to the Gulf tensions, the Palestinian conflict has been downgraded as a less than primary concern. In conclusion, the Israeli officials have so underestimated the depth of and rationale behind the Arab accords and steadfastness arrived during the summit that they have determined that now is the time to strike at the heart of the Arab World by intensifying its game of on-and-off alignment with Tehran. This Machiavellian reading of the events in the Middle East and the Arab Gulf will certainly lead the Israeli leaders nowhere. To begin with, the Arab solidarity achieved at the Amman summit is much more solid and genuine than they have understood; and no amount of manipulation of the Tehran card by Israel can influence the course of the Arab-Israeli conflict. By pinning too much hope on the illusion that the Iranian danger will make the Arab side relinquish their rights and duties on the Arab-Israeli front, they are much mistaken.

The Israeli government would be better advised to be wary of reaching premature or baseless conclusions, or they will find themselves the biggest losers in the end. Most of all, Israel must not fall victim to careless conclusions that by bringing Egypt back to the Arab fold, the Arab governments are well on the road to acceptance of the Camp David Accords. This misinterpretation of Arab moves to resume diplomatic relations with Egypt is a dangerous game for Israel. In a way of proof, Jordan has long since resumed relations and maintained the best of terms with Egypt. Yet, Jordan is holding strong to its convictions that no peace with Israel can be achieved except through an international peace conference under the U.N. auspices. It will be recalled that it is Egypt rather than Jordan that has changed its perspective vis-a-vis the methodology to be employed in the search for peace in the Middle East, emerging strongly in favour of the international peace conference idea rather than the Camp David approach. It would be more accurate to view the normalisation of relations with Egypt in this light, rather in the haze of illusions.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Summit puts Arabs on track

THE Amman extraordinary summit has succeeded to put us once again before a reality which suggests that any national achievement is one that affects every Arab state and that any national victory is one that has to spread to cover the Arab World. This reality, that we have always defended, explains the real joy over the outcome of the summit by our people in all Arab states. It also justifies the respect among friends around the world as they follow discussions on the summit and as they sense the seriousness through the response of Arab capitals. The Amman summit's utmost achievement is the reaffirmation of the pan-Arab dimension that should prevail inter-Arab and Arab-International relations, and which should dominate all what we plan for and seek to implement. For the absence of this dimension in Arab political, economic and military fields has led to the present weakness. If we all embark on building our economy from the reality that we are one nation in one homeland, and if we begin to build our military power based on this fact, and if we begin to deal with others, confronting the enemies and seeking ways to salvation based on the pan-Arab dimension, we would have achieved what seems today close to a miracle — that is the restoration of the homeland and its unity. The Amman summit has succeeded, because Arab leaders stood together to confront a threat to our very existence, challenges that surround us and designs spreading from Jerusalem to Basra.

Al Dustour: Iran's massing of troops

AS the press continues to report about Iran's massing of its military in preparation for an aggression on brotherly Iraq, the Arab Gulf again witnesses more Iranian attacks against international navigation in a way that shows the extent of extremism and deepslide that determine the stands of Iran and its short-sighted policies. Although Iran has tried its luck after similar massing of troops last year, which did not result in anything but further destruction and the bitterness of failure, Tehran's rulers who are full with war hallucinations return now to repeat the show, following the same methods, trying to reach unattainable goals against the steadfastness of Iraqis and their strong will. It seems that the united stand reached at the Amman summit, and the collective and clear condemnation of Iran and its occupation of Arab territories has irritated the rulers of Tehran and expedited their drive towards a military adventure. Those rulers, before others, know its tragic results they are bound to reach. This, however, requires Arab leaders, who put aside their difference to support Iraq, to hasten in crystallising a formula of solidarity that is capable of dealing with this Iranian threat. The Arab Nation that has restored its solidarity at the summit of accord and harmony and put the Iranian threat as a priority is now called upon to teach the Iranians, with all available means that behind Iraq there is one nation that stands with all its resources and capabilities beside the Arabs' right to defend its lands and safeguard their dignity and determine their national and pan-Arab choice without any foreign interference, pressure or intimidation.

What Americans simply cannot see

By Claudia Wright

IN WASHINGTON it is often said that information is power. If that is true, two recent pieces of information ought to have made a powerful impact — not only in Washington, but on public opinion throughout the U.S.

On March 4 of this year, a U.S. federal judge sentenced Jonathan Pollard to life imprisonment for spying for Israel. Pollard was not the first U.S. government official to be caught spying for Israel, but he was the first to be arrested, indicted, convicted, and imprisoned for being paid by Israel to break U.S. espionage laws. The Pollard case came to a climax at the same time that disclosures by the press, by the president's special review board, by two congressional select committees, and by Judge Lawrence Walsh, the special prosecutor, were all revealing the same explosive fact: That the highest officials of the Israeli government had instigated the Reagan administration to participate in illegal Israeli arms sales to Iran between 1985 and 1986, and for several years before then.

Information about the Pollard spy case and Israel's role in the Iran arms scandal has been easily available. Pollard was front-page news at the time of his arrest in November 1985; again when he and his wife pleaded guilty to spying in June 1986; and once more when they were sentenced early this year. Even more prominent in media coverage has been the Iran arms scandal. To a casual observer, the connections and parallels between the two cases should have been obvious. In both cases, the Israeli government had been secretly involved in breaking U.S. laws and lied

about that involvement later. In both cases, officials in Tel Aviv and Washington knew that Israeli objectives ran contrary to U.S. policy. When the secrets of both cases were revealed, officials at the highest levels of the U.S. government concluded the Israelis had broken U.S. laws to benefit Israel and enrich themselves.

There are other parallels between Israeli espionage in the U.S. and the Iran arms scandal that are not yet public knowledge. They will certainly not become known if the congressional investigation headed by Senator Daniel Inouye and Senator Warren Rudman gets away with the cover-up they have intended for Israel's benefit. What remains to be uncovered, for example, is the possibility that there are others, including men who are or have been high-ranking officials in the U.S. government, or consultants to the U.S. government, who have been involved in the same Israeli spying to which Pollard belonged. It is possible also that, in seeking to mitigate Pollard's wrongdoing, the Israelis off before they could be arrested in this country, and help cover up this and the Iran arms scandals, high-ranking U.S. officials have conspired to break other U.S. laws, and obstruct justice.

But even before detailed information of this kind is available, the American people should know more now than they have ever known before about Israeli behaviour towards the U.S. government. For the first time, all Americans can know what a handful have been trying to say for decades: That Israel deliberately

flouts U.S. laws and breaches U.S. industrial and military secrets, in order to boost Israel's defence industries with sales that are subsidised by U.S. aid money, and profits that are invested in still more theft of American technology. Yet, surprisingly, the American people do not understand this at all. At least, not according to a national media networks, like the New York Times and CBS.

In April, four weeks after Pollard's sentencing, these two media organisations conducted a nationwide poll on the spy case and Israeli involvement in the Iran arms scandal. They selected 1,045 people at random for telephone interviews, plus 43 Jews specially identified so that their views could be compared to those of non-Jewish Americans. The first question mentioned Pollard's spying, and asked what country he had spied for. The response was extraordinary. Only 19 per cent of the non-Jewish Americans knew that Pollard had spied against the U.S. for Israel. Only one person in five understood Pollard was an Israeli spy! Sixty-seven per cent — that is two-thirds of the people questioned around the country — said they did not know who Pollard had been working for. And 13 per cent guessed he had been working for the USSR or the Communist bloc. If you extrapolate these responses to the nation as a whole, an incredible 81 per cent — four people out of every five — apparently do not know for whom Pollard spied, or even that he was a spy at all.

Public knowledge of Israel's role in the Iran arms scandal was not tested by the Times-CBS poll.

Instead, people were asked why they thought Israel had "suggested" the U.S. sell arms to Iran in the first place. Sixty-nine per cent replied the Israelis had acted to "help themselves"; 7 per cent said "to help the U.S."; and 21 per cent said they didn't know. Despite the enormous media coverage, what exactly the Israelis did has not been clearly communicated and discussed: it would be more accurate to say that what the Israelis did has been covered up.

The poll reveals, however, that as soon as the truth begins to break through, very important shifts in public opinion begin to take place. Once the non-Jewish Americans polled by the Times and CBS were told that Israel was behind both the espionage and the illicit arms trade with Iran, their anger and support for U.S. retaliation rose sharply. Even so, a quarter of the people questioned could give no answer on what action the U.S. should take. A similarly negative but non-specific attitude has been recorded in other opinion polls dealing with U.S. military aid to Israel. Before the arms scandal, roughly two-thirds of Americans felt the U.S. should keep its arms aid to Israel at or above the existing level. Since the Iran scandal, the proportion of Americans favouring a cut in U.S. aid to Israel rose to 41 per cent.

But even that response masks the pervasive public ignorance of exactly how much U.S. military aid Israel actually receives. Most Americans simply do not know this. In a rare 1985 poll that identified the multi-billion dollar value of U.S. aid to Israel, and then asked Americans whether

they think the level is "too much," "too little," or the "right amount," only a third supported the existing level of aid or more. A clear majority, 54 per cent, thought U.S. aid to Israel was excessive.

To my experience, black Americans have a far sharper understanding of this point than do white Americans. And this suggests that it is not so much exposure to the media and level of information that contribute to understanding as isolation from the media and distrust of its message that produces judgments that are closer to the truth. Black Americans know better than most not to believe what they read in the white press. They know better than most to distrust the official claims of the U.S. government. Accordingly, they are less taken in by the propaganda of Israel and its U.S. allies.

But to go back to the majority of white, non-Jewish Americans. When they discover — if they discover — the truth about Israeli espionage in the U.S., then they react sharply. After the non-Jewish respondents were told by the pollsters who Pollard was and what he had done, they expressed far more anger at the Israelis than those who had already known about the case. Those for whom this was new information also expressed far more support for Pollard's life imprisonment. The non-Jewish Americans who were hearing about the Pollard case for the first time were also more certain it would cause serious damage to U.S.-Israeli relations — because they thought it should.

The Times-CBS poll helps to confirm that information does have an impact on public opinion. But the fact that many may never have even seen press reports of the poll results, or discussions of what it meant, confirms another important point. This is that ignorance about Israel's role in spying against the U.S. and selling arms to Iran is pervasive across this country. Ignorance, not information, is Israel's great media asset. Americans support Israel because Israel and its American supporters have pulled off a gigantic confidence trick. According to a recent technical assessment of opinion polls on Israel by William Schneider in the *National Journal* (May 1987) "there is every reason to expect an anti-Israel backlash in the United States. But it isn't happening. There is little evidence that the American public's fundamental commitment to Israel has been shaken... While poll results cannot be completely reassuring, the trends are at least encouraging for Israel and American Jews." This is very misleading. The poll evidence actually shows the reverse — but only when Americans understand what the Israelis have done!

Thus, while the current polls can be reassuring to Israel and its U.S. supporters, the reason is that the American public is too ignorant to react as American Jews expect them to. The American public's commitment to Israel has not been shaken by the espionage and arms scandals because Israel's defenders in the U.S. have misled the American people and kept them in ignorance of the truth — Middle East International, London.

Reagan's seven-year conservative crusade over

By Valerie Strauss
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Seven years after Ronald Reagan was elected to the White House and 14 months before he leaves it, there are increasing signs that the conservative "Reagan revolution" is over.

To the past week, a series of events have underscored his declining powers of persuasion and his inability to translate his conservative rhetoric into long-lasting policy.

Reagan has had a major impact on American society in essential ways, key among them the general acceptance of his belief that there are limits to what the federal government can afford to do for its people.

But Reagan's performance has often belied his rhetoric, even on his central thesis that "less government is better."

The federal deficit has soared since he was elected in November 1980 and he has presided over the transformation of the United States from a creditor nation to the world's largest debtor.

The disparity between words and results is apparent on other issues.

In his presidential campaigns, Reagan called for moving the Supreme Court to the right, unwavering support for the Nicaragua

contra rebels and a huge military buildup.

He vowed to ban abortion, restore school prayer and said taxes would be raised over "my dead body." He lambasted every arms control treaty signed with Moscow and called the Soviet Union an "evil empire."

But as he heads into his last 14 months in the White House, Reagan finds himself making compromises that he would never have accepted at the height of his political power and that have disappointed his ardent conservative supporters.

Reagan is three weeks from signing his first arms control treaty with Moscow at a summit which some deeply conservative admirers have viewed as a sign Reagan has abandoned the conservative cause to boost his declining status.

Reagan's struggle to fill a vacancy on the Supreme Court further symbolises his recent difficulties.

He first picked arch-conservative judge Robert Bork, who was rejected by the Senate by the widest margin in history for a high court nominee. A defiant Reagan then vowed to give the Senate somebody they would object to just as much and picked judge Douglas Ginsburg.

The Senate never got the chance. Ginsburg withdrew after

disclosing he had smoked marijuana.

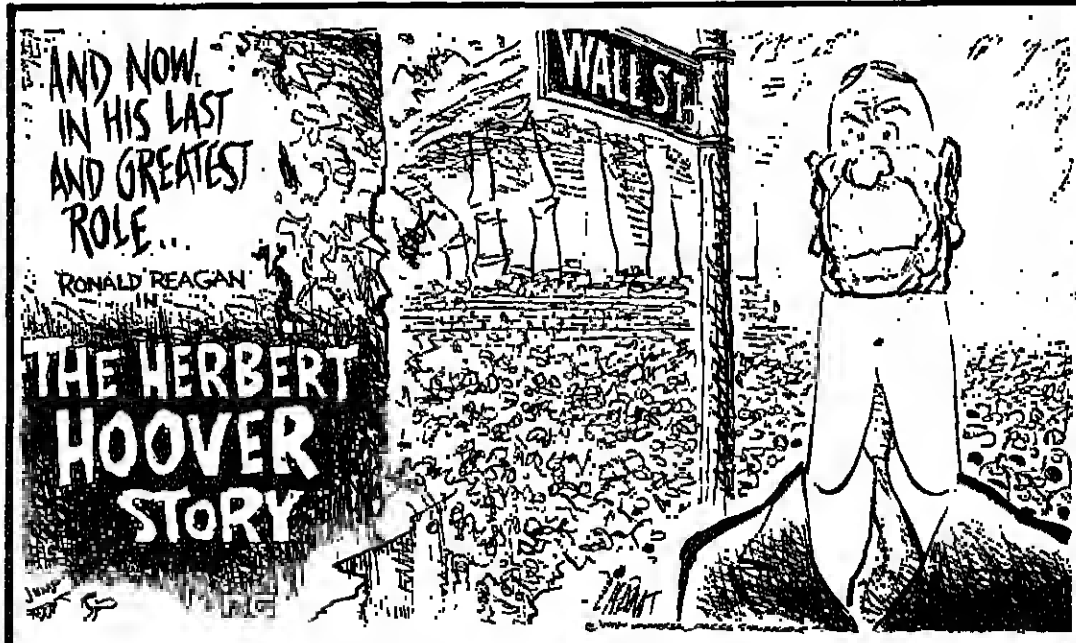
Last Wednesday, Reagan chose the moderate California judge Anthony Kennedy, who judicial experts say is likely to be a centrist who prevents the court from overturning key decisions on social issues such as abortion.

Reagan has also been forced to compromise in his Central American policy, which has its cornerstone, Reagan's unwavering support for the contra rebels in Nicaragua.

But under strong pressure not to obstruct an unfolding peace initiative by the leaders of Central America's five countries, Reagan has agreed to delay until next year a request for new military aid for the contras.

He made the concession only a few months after calling the peace plan "fatally flawed," in part because it would end U.S. support for the contras.

Last week, he could only sit and fume as Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, whom Reagan has called a "little dictator," flew to Washington to unveil a plan for a ceasefire with the



contras and to welcome supporters in a church just two blocks from the White House.

The rise of the pragmatic Frank Carlucci, Reagan's national security adviser, to succeed hawkish Caspar Weinberger as de-

fence secretary was another sign that the Reagan revolution is over.

Weinberger had presided over an unprecedented peacetime military buildup and had stood firm against any attempt to cut

defence budgets. In confirmation hearings last Thursday, Carlucci sang a different tune, saying he was willing to compromise with Congress and realised that "we will be talking about a smaller military force."

LETTERS

War serves Iranian regime's ill-designs

To the Editor:

AS THE Iran-Iraq war, now in its eighth year, rages without end, Khomeini's adventurism threatens as never before the stability and security of the Gulf region. Despite the mullahs' rejection of any peace initiative, including United Nations Security Council Resolution 598, the unprecedented extensive and coordinated international undertaking to end the conflict reflects the concern of the world community over this profound tragedy and Khomeini's crisis-making in that strategic region of the world. These activities range from the presence of outside naval forces to attempts at imposing an arms embargo on the regime.

After 1.5 million casualties, three million refugees and \$500 billion of economic damage on the Iranian side alone, the carnage rages on due to Khomeini's belligerence. Can the world put on the mullahs any pressure greater than the catastrophic, state-mated war itself? Indeed, countless peace delegations have left Tehran empty-handed, never grasping the reason for the war's perpetuation.

From day one, the Khomeini regime has relied on repression and war to avoid coming to grips with the original expectations of the revolution. Unable to cope with the nation's 20th century needs, it made dissent a capital crime and channelled the tremendous energy released by the 1979 revolution to external crises instead of domestic construction.

The ruling mullahs first masterminded the (U.S.) embassy hostage crisis to gag the democratic opposition, and then welcomed the war as a "divine blessing," because it served the same purpose. Presently, adventurism in the Gulf, kidnapping and terrorist subversion supplement the stalemate conflict. To keep a betrayed and increasingly disaffected nation at bay, they have executed 70,000 dissidents and jailed 140,000 more. Instead of liberty, peace and progress, the ideals for which thousands died, they brought Iran a devastated agriculture and industry, 50 per cent unemployment, rampant government corruption and the oppression of women, among others. Today, an ocean of blood and betrayal separates the mullahs from the citizenry.

The much touted mass mobilisation to prepare for the "final" offensive was a failure. Last year, Iranian casualties in 30 major offensives against Iraq exceeded 300,000. Opposition to the war has reached new heights. According to *U.S. News and World Report*, 350,000 Iranians of draft age have fled to Turkey to evade forced dispatch. Of the 6,000 conscripts at the Afshar training base in Tehran, 75 per cent deserted before the end of the term in March. Numerous anti-war demonstrations have erupted in cities and on military bases.

The regime's chaotic situation has also exacerbated factional infighting. Last fall, Khomeini moved to depose his hand-picked successor, Mottazeri, ordering the arrest of his relative and top aide, Mehdi Hashemi, and many of his followers in various government agencies. Then came Khomeini's decree in June to dissolve the ruling Islamic Republic Party, undermining mullah Ali Khamene'i, the regime's president and the party head. By summer's end, Khomeini stripped Mottazeri of his title as the heir apparent and ordered the execution of Hashemi. It is now abundantly clear that the system cannot function without Khomeini's direct intervention in the day-to-day affairs of the state. In a radio address, Hashemi Rafsanjani admitted as much: "In our situation, no one other than your holiness (Khomeini) can solve these problems. Without your presence at this crucial juncture, we do not know to whom we can turn in the future."

High-pitched rhetoric, the "war of embassies" with France, terrorist activities in Mecca, the subsequent ransacking of the Saudi and Kuwaiti embassies in Tehran and missile attacks against Kuwait and Baghdad are the regime's recent attempts to allay irremediable military, political, economic and social disasters. They have been particularly aggravated by the repercussions of the Irangate scandal, the escalating resistance and the overwhelming international pressure for peace exemplified by the U.N. Security Council resolution. France's painful lesson of appeasing and later severing ties with Khomeini proved the futility of dealing with a terrorist regime thrashing in every direction to keep itself afloat.

Although the turbaned tyrant tries to cover up each domestic and international setback with a new foreign crisis or by devoting another faction, each of these acts in turn become part of the momentum leading to the regime's inevitable fall.

So long as this regime remains, war, repression and terrorism will persist. It is essential, therefore, that the whole world, particularly those who fought Hitler's fascism, be partners in neutralising the conspiracies of this "little Hitler" of our time. Moral and geo-political considerations are best served by an arms and oil boycott of the Khomeini regime and the recognition of the Iranian people's long-denied but unwavering yearning for peace and liberty, which is represented by the National Council of Resistance of Iran.

Ali Safavi,
U.S. spokesman,
People's Mojahedin of Iran,
Washington D.C.

14th battle for world chess crown drawn after 21 moves

SEVILLE, Spain (AP) — The 14th game of the World Chess Championship between titleholder Garri Kasparov, playing white, and challenger Anatoly Karpov, ended in a draw Monday after only 21 moves.

Kasparov leads 7.5-6.5, with three wins, two losses and nine draws. "Kasparov is employing a very cautious strategy, very practical. With 10 games remaining, Karpov needs two wins to recapture the lead," said Yugoslav grandmaster Ljubomir Ljubojevic, who is the sixth ranked player in the world.

The winner of the 24-game contest requires 12.5 points or six victories. In the event of a 12-12 tie Kasparov will retain his title. A win scores one point and a draw a half.

Despite retaining his lead and edging nearer the final stages of the match, some experts remained critical of Kasparov's recent games with the advantageous white pieces.

Kasparov's last three games with white have each resulted in unusually fast draws, barely overstepping the 20-move mark.

"It's a bad strategy, Kasparov's

natural style with white is far more aggressive. A win today would have given him a crushing three-win lead," said Danish international master Bjarke Kristensen.

The advantage of playing white in chess is often compared to serving in tennis.

The opening moves followed the 10th game which had petered out to a draw in only 20 moves.

Karpov employed the safe and sturdy Caro-Kann defence, but departed from the earlier game with a new ninth move, offering to exchange the queens and reach a peaceful endgame.

For two moves, the queens faced each other across the board, but neither player was willing to make the exchange and Kasparov pushed his queen away on the 12th move.

In the middle game, experts said Kasparov had more space, but faced an uphill task breaking into Karpov's solid defensive

formation.

With his opening advantage neutralised, Kasparov played his 21st move and offered a draw. When the players agreed, two spectators in the Lope de Vega theatre whistled, a possible sign of displeasure with the peaceful conclusion.

The 15th game is scheduled for Wednesday with Karpov playing white.

Kasparov, 24, lives in Baku, the capital of the southern Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan. Karpov, 36, comes from Moscow.

At the start of play, Karpov arrived more than five minutes late for the game. But Kasparov, who also came to the board a minute late, allowed his own time to tick away as he waited for the challenger.

Karpov's tardiness meant photographers were unable to get any shots of the challenger on Monday.

In international chess events, photographers are only allowed to take pictures for three minutes at the start of play. Although they were given a two-minute extension by the match arbiters, the photographers were eventually

bustled off the stage before Karpov appeared.

Evert tired of life on the road

NEW YORK (R) — Chris Evert may have reached the end of an illustrious career following a first round defeat against West German Sylvia Hanika in the women's tennis circuit championship on Monday.

Hanika, ranked 14th in the world, ended a run of 14 successive defeats against Evert by winning 6-4, 6-4.

With her 33rd birthday one month away — and with Steffi Graf and Martina Navratilova firmly entrenched as the world's number one and two — Evert admits she is tired of her gypsy existence and longs for a normal

life.

"I'm sort of relieved the year is over," Evert said after her first round defeat in the \$1 million championship which marks the climax of the women's circuit.

"It's been a long year with a lot of tournaments and I haven't been home for more than 10 days at a time."

Although she won five titles in 1987, it was the first year since 1975 she failed to win one of the four Grand Slam championships.

She also failed to reach at least the semifinals stage of the U.S. Open for the first time in her career after a disappointing quar-

ter-final showing in which her serve deserted her against Lori McNeil in much the same way it did against Hanika.

"I've had four or five matches where I've really played below par," said Evert. "It must be nature taking its course."

During her 16-year career, Evert has won 18 Grand Slam singles titles and a total of 153 singles titles.

Evert said emotions had played a part in her lacklustre year.

"The first few months weren't that happy. Going through a divorce isn't pleasant," added Evert.

IOC head content with preparations for Olympics

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), said Tuesday the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games will be one of the best in Olympic history.

Samaranch also said in a ceremony to unveil a bronze statue he donated to the Seoul Olympic Organising Committee (SLOOC) that South Korea has done its best in organising the games.

The statue "Atleta," which portrays a male athlete, was cast in 1950 by Jose Ayatz of Spain, and SLOOC officials said it will be displayed in the Olympic Park.

reception at a gymnasium in the Olympic Park to sample food planned for athletes' menus during the Olympics. Officials said the committee plans to provide at least 266 different kinds of dishes for Olympic participants.

Samaranch expressed "satisfaction" with Seoul's preparations for the games, including security measures, after inspecting sports facilities and meeting with SLOOC President Park Seh-Jik and Sports Minister Cho Sang-Ho, sports officials said.

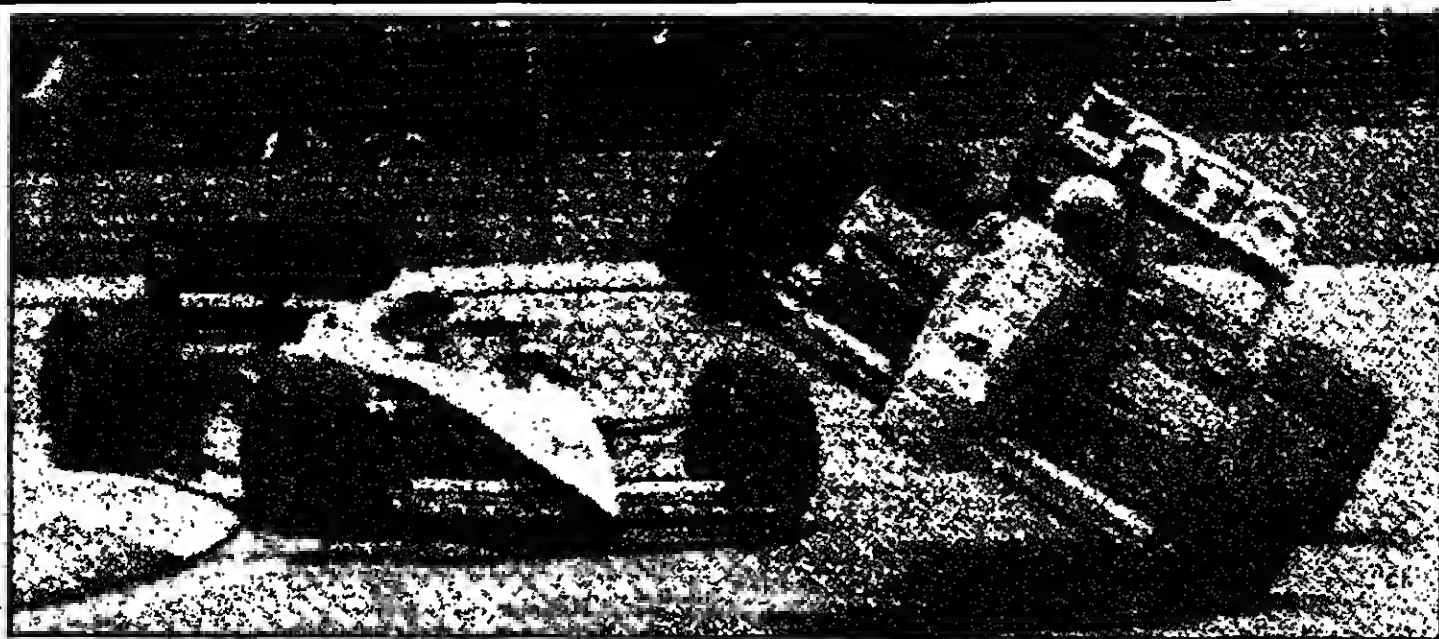
They said Cho urged Samaranch to help ensure the participation of North Korea and other Communist countries in the Seoul

Games, but declined to confirm whether Samaranch discussed North Korea's demand to be a co-host for the 1988 Olympics.

North Korea has said that if its demand is not met, it would lead a Communist Bloc boycott of the Seoul Games. South Korea has rejected the demand.

So far, talks between North and South Korea over sharing the games have been stalled, despite Samaranch's proposal that the North stages five events.

Samaranch told Korean reporters upon arrival Monday that he would not close the door to further negotiations between the two Koreas over the co-host issue.



ARNOUX ON EDGE... Frenchman, pirouetting on two wheels, just avoids hitting Andrea de Cesaris at Brabham Corner. Austrian Gerhard Berger won the Nov. 15 Australian Grand Prix

in Adelaide to sustain the Ferrari team's winning momentum. Berger had won the Grand Prix two weeks earlier.

Spain in for a soccer showdown against Albania to qualify for European Cup

SEVILLE, Spain (R) — Injury-plagued Spain will seek a high-scoring victory to keep alive their hopes of ousting Romania and qualifying for the finals of the European Championship when they meet Albania on Wednesday.

Romania, which visits Austria, share the leadership of Group I with Spain on eight points, but have a superior goal difference and the Spaniards would need at least eight goals to go through if Romania win. Both games kick-off at the same time.

Spanish coach Miguel Munoz, who celebrates his 50th match in charge of the national team against Albania, has been forced to make several changes because of injuries to three key players.

Midfielder Rafael Gordillo will be missing with a strained ankle. Jenaro Andrinua and Francisco Carrasco have thigh injuries.

Munoz has called up Real Madrid winger Paco Llorente, whose second-half performance swept his club into the quarterfinals of the European Cup when they beat Porto two weeks ago.

Albania, bottom of the group with no points and nothing to lose, are expected to field the team which was beaten 1-0 by Romania last month.

Group 1 standings:

	Games played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals for	Goals against	Points
Romania	5	4	0	1	13	3	8
Spain	5	4	0	1	9	6	8
Austria	5	2	0	3	6	9	4
Albania	5	0	0	5	2	12	0

Spain is unbeaten in Seville and may have the added advantage of playing under floodlights. They are familiar with playing at night, but the Albanians are not.

Munoz will be hoping striker Emilio Butragueno is able to find his best from alongside Julio Salinas as they hunt the goal rush they need to qualify.

Four years ago, when Spain needed an 11-goal winning margin against Malta to qualify for the 1984 finals in France, they did it by winning 12-1... and they are confident they can perform a similar feat again.

"It will be easier for us to get eight goals against the Albanians," said Martin Vazquez, "than to rely on Austria beating Romania."

Romania sets temptation aside
Romania manager Emeric

Jenei is determined his team will march into next year's finals of the European Championship with a victory when they meet Austria on Wednesday.

With Spain, which meets Albania in Seville on Wednesday, level on points at the top of the group, Romania needs a clear victory to ensure their superior goal difference gives them the best possible chance of going to West Germany next June.

As part of his plan — and to ensure his players are not tempted — Jenei has ordered all the well-stocked mini-bars in the players' hotel rooms to be removed.

"We have only one plan in mind — victory," he said. "We must do everything to win the match."

A single goal win by Romania would leave them with a goal difference of 11. Spain, which

currently has a goal difference of only three, would then need eight goals to level and succeed by having the highest number of goals.

Jenei has included 10 men from Romanian champions Steaua Bucharest, including playmaker Rodion Camataru, in an 18-man squad which has spent the last 10 days in a training camp.

He said he is well aware that the Austrians will want revenge for their 4-0 defeat in Bucharest at the start of the qualifying tournament and aware also that they will be playing their final match under the guidance of Yugoslav coach Brank Elsner.

Elsner is determined to leave on a high note. "We want to leave the European qualifiers with dignity and we are going to play to win," he said.

Elsner has recalled veteran striker Walter Schachner after an absence of almost two years. Schachner will team up with Toni Polster and Gerhard Rodax, who will win his second cap, in a powerful attack.

But much may depend on how effectively Robert Pecl shackles Camataru as he attempts to set up the counter-attacks that could carry them through.

Hajduk Split appeals against UEFA two-year soccer ban

SPLIT, Yugoslavia (R) — Yugoslav First Division soccer club Hajduk Split on Monday appealed against a two-year ban imposed by the European Football Union (UEFA) after a tear gas incident at a home match against Marseille of France.

Club officials said the UEFA banned Hajduk from all European Cup competitions and prohibited the use of their stadium in Split for any matches organised by UEFA after fans exploded a tear gas bomb at the European Cup Winners' Cup tie on Nov. 5, causing a stampede in which 20 people were injured.

The officials said they sent the appeal to UEFA along with documents on measures taken to prevent such incidents and apprehend hooligans who can them.

Police have arrested four suspects in connection with the gas incident.

Club secretary-general Dan Kosta told Reuters on Saturday the UEFA punishment was "catastrophe" for Hajduk.

"International matches are a main source of vital hard currency and now we cannot obtain any more," he said.

Club officials said on Monday the UEFA ban could bring the club to the verge of bankruptcy and that Hajduk would defend itself before UEFA's disciplinary committee in Zurich.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

U.S. basketballers to play in Saudi Arabia

RIYADH (R) — The all-black American basketball troupe Harlem Globetrotters will play three games in Saudi Arabia for \$75,000, local newspapers said on Tuesday. The team has been invited by the Jeddah-based Al Ahli Club which is celebrating its 50th anniversary. Earlier this month it paid world soccer star Diego Maradona a \$4 million for an appearance.

Cash under fire for playing S. Africa

SYDNEY (R) — The Australian anti-apartheid movement on Tuesday attacked Wimbledon tennis champion Pat Cash for taking part in the South African Open tennis tournament. In a statement it accused the 22-year-old Australian star of placing his own financial gain above "the struggle of the black majority in South Africa." It continued: "We will not hesitate to picket and effectively disrupt future tournaments in which he is allowed to participate." The newspaper, the Australian, quoted Cash as saying at Johannesburg as he arrived: "Don't ask me, I've got nothing to say about this thing. I'm just a tennis player."

Dutch appeal set for Friday

BERNE (R) — The Dutch appeal against the reversal of their 8-win over Cyprus in a European Soccer Championship qualifier will be heard on Friday. The appeal is part of a heavy two-day agenda facing the European Football Union's (UEFA) appeal board in Zurich beginning on Thursday.

113 countries enter 1990 World Cup

ZURICH (R) — One hundred and thirteen countries have entered for the 1990 World Cup Soccer Tournament in Italy, 10 more than previously announced, the International Football Federation (FIFA) said on Tuesday. A press spokeswoman told Reuters that Portugal had been inadvertently left out of the final list of entries published earlier. The qualifying rounds will start on March 1 next year and be completed by the end of November 1989. The draw will be held here on Dec. 12.

Peru's Yzaga wins Sao Paulo Open

SAO PAULO, Brazil (R) — Peruvian teenager Jaime Yzaga beat Brazil's number one player Luiz Mattar 6-2, 4-6, 6-2 on Monday in the final of the \$104,900 Sao Paulo Open men's tennis tournament. Yzaga, ranked 94 in the world, overcame the four-seeded Brazilian in less than two hours, mainly because of his efficient baseline tactic, which managed to control Mattar's main target, his powerful first service.

Wimbledon shows record profit

LONDON (R) — The 1987 Wimbledon tennis championship made a record profit of £7,154,990 (\$12.5 million), the all-England club said on Tuesday. The figure was more than 15 per cent up on the 1986 profits of £6,200,848 (\$10.85 million).

Football coach forced to leave

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Ohio State football coach Earl Bruce, dogged by fan criticism after three consecutive losses, was fired Monday only a few months after he said he had no intention of stepping down. Athletic director Rick Bay said, Bay, Bruce's staunchest defender in recent days, said he had resigned as a result. Bay said Bruce's firing was effective after the end of Saturday's regular-season final game at Michigan. "It's a shame. It's a dark day for Ohio State," Bay said. Of Bruce, Bay said, "I think he's done a whale of a job. His record is among the very best in the country." Bay described Bruce as "very disillusioned" by the turn of events. Bruce, in the second year of a three-year contract, has coached Ohio State to a 5-4-1 record including three straight losses by a total of 10 points.

Lendl withdraws from match with Edberg

INGLEWOOD, California (AP) — Ivan Lendl, the world top-ranked tennis player, has withdrawn from a scheduled match Thursday against No. 2 Stefan Edberg of Sweden because of an injury scheduled this Tuesday, a spokesman said. American Jimmy Connors, currently ranked fifth, will replace Lendl in the Michelin challenge series. John Black, publicist for the Forum in Inglewood, California, said Monday.

Yugoslav player shows improvement

SARAJEVO, Yugoslavia (R) — Yugoslav soccer international Refik Sabanadzovic, who went into a coma after an accident on the pitch in a Yugoslav first division game, has shown slight signs of improvement, doctors said on Tuesday. Sonja Rustempasic, doctor in the Sarajevo hospital where Sabanadzovic was being treated, said the player had opened his eyes occasionally and reacted to tests, raising hopes he might recover. "We are doing everything we can at the moment, but it is still too early to make optimistic predictions," Rustempasic told reporters. The 22-year-old Sabanadzovic, a midfielder with Red Star Belgrade, suffered serious head injury in last Sunday's league match as he collided with Zeljiznicar's Zoran Sliskovic, one of his best friends.

Denver escapes defeat

DENVER (AP) — Denver's John Elway and Chicago's Jim McMahon counterpunched brilliantly for 60 minutes, each exceeding 300 yards passing in a dazzling duel that wound up being decided by a pair of missed extra points.

Thanks to those two failed conversions and a fumble by William "the refrigerator" Perry at the goal line, Denver escaped with a badly needed 31-29 NFL Monday night victory over the Bears.

The triumph raised the Broncos' record to 5-3-1 and kept them 2 1/2 games behind San Diego, 8-1, in the AFC West. Chicago fell to 7-2 but remained atop the NFC Central.

The two teams played to a virtual standoff.

— Chicago had 446 total yards and Denver 439.

— The Broncos had 25 first downs to 24 by the Bears.

— Both teams averaged 6.5 yards per offensive play.

— Chicago dominated the first and third quarters, Denver the second and fourth.

— Elway completed 21 of 40 passes for 341 yards and three touchdowns, while McMahon hit on 21 of 34 for 311 yards and three scores.

— "We don't have much of a running game, and that makes it difficult, but John had a tremendous game," Denver coach Dan Reeves said of his

quarterback. "He got out of the pocket, scrambled around and made the big plays that we needed."

Elway also led the Broncos in rushing with 35 yards of five carries.

If there was one turning point in the evenly played contest, it probably came midway through the second quarter. The Bears, leading 14-7, were threatening to score again. Facing a third-and-goal from the Broncos' 1-yard line, McMahon handed off to the 315-pound Perry, a defensive lineman who was making his first appearance in the offensive backfield this season.

Perry was stacked up, however, and Mike Harden pried the ball loose. Cornerback Mark Hayes picked it up and returned it 34 yards, setting up Denver's tying touchdown drive.

Elway, who earlier in the quarter tossed a 22-yard touchdown pass to Vance Johnson, made it 14-14 with a 22-yarder to mark Jackson.

Elway capped the Broncos' second-period flurry with a perfectly thrown 35-yard TD pass to rookie Ricky Nattiel.

But McMahon, who had two TD passes in the first quarter, brought Chicago back.

India defeats Jordan in Asian basketball

Special from Bangkok

INDIA defeated Jordan 89-72 Tuesday in a basketball match played within the Asian Basketball Championship being held at Bangkok. Jordan, which has already lost to the Philippines was eliminated from the championship with its defeat by India.



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Reagan's remarks on taxes depress dollar

LONDON (R) — A fragile dollar rally faltered in Europe on Tuesday after President Reagan said raising taxes would be the wrong way to trim the U.S. budget deficit.

The U.S. currency's weakness also checked a rebound on jittery world stock exchanges.

Financial markets have become preoccupied with the huge U.S. budget deficit, which is viewed as

a key factor in causing the "crash of 87" four weeks ago.

President Reagan's weekend forecast of \$80 billion in budget cuts over the next two years boosted markets, but values sagged late on Monday after news of his remarks on taxes to a conference on life insurance in Washington.

Dealers said confusion over President Reagan's remarks had unsettled already nervous markets.

"Until something concrete happens, people will be wary of pushing the dollar too far either way," one said.

The dollar breached the 1.70 West German mark support level during the Tokyo trading day which ends before Europe opens and dealers here said the way had been opened for further losses.

The dollar opened in London at 1.6985 marks after finishing at 1.7070 on Monday. It had closed at 1.7145 in New York and 1.7020 in Tokyo.

Gold edged higher on the dollar's weakness and was fixed higher in London on Tuesday at \$463.55 an ounce, \$1.45 higher than the previous fix.

At midday, London's 100-share Financial Times Stock Exchange index was 1,681.4 points, down 3.3 points on Monday's close.

In other foreign exchange business, the dollar opened in London at 136.05 Japanese yen from 136.55 at the previous close. It had finished at 137.15 in New York and 136.05 in Tokyo.

The markets are focusing sharply on the depth of the budget deficit cuts.

Some London dealers feared a sell-off on Friday, when a \$23 billion cut required by the revised Gramm-Rudman act is due to come into effect if no pact has been concluded by then between the Republican Reagan administration and the Democrat-controlled Congress.

Analysts said \$60 billion off the budget over two years was the minimum that would satisfy world foreign exchange, bond, commodity and equity markets. But some dealers said the dollar was looking vulnerable.

"The problem is, a \$30 billion cut in the budget deficit is already partly discounted. That does not leave the dollar with much upward potential," one said.

West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg said on Monday the markets would be impressed by a \$30 billion cut this year and a further \$45 billion cut next year.

Mr. Stoltenberg has said a successful conclusion of U.S. budget deficit negotiations is a prerequisite for any meeting of the Group of Seven (G-7) leading industrial nations to discuss further policy coordination.

He repeated to reporters in Bonn that no date had yet been agreed for a G-7 meeting.

The Frankfurt Bourse, which will be closed on Wednesday for a national holiday, opened earlier on Tuesday with the Boersen-Zeitung index 3.5 per cent down on Monday's close.

In Paris, shares started lower with the All Share index dipping 2.7 per cent below Monday's close. In Milan shares were higher due to what dealers called technical accounting factors while in Zurich shares followed the trend and the All Share Swiss index lost 26.7 points.

Tokyo's stock market, the world's largest, closed down with the 225-share Nikkei average off 271.15 points at 22,344.28. Brokers blamed President Reagan's remarks on tax policy for the fall.

"The market is worried about what appears to be real indecision in the United States about the budget deficit," said Mr. Paul Migliorato of Jardine Fleming (Securities) in Tokyo.

Wall Street on Monday also suffered from President Reagan's remarks. The Dow Jones industrial average ended up 14.09 points at 1,949.10 after being up 35 points earlier in the day.

Finance officials see slower world growth after share crash

Meanwhile, financial officials from industrial countries, meeting in Paris, revised down world economic growth estimates for 1988 to around two per cent after the stock market collapse, but said nations were not headed into recession.

Diplomatic sources said an economic policy committee meeting of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) broadly agreed that a quarter point cut in growth would be needed in predictions made as recently as June.

Studies prepared in advance of the two-day meeting of finance ministry officials and central bankers, ending Tuesday, had provided forecasts for growth as low as 1.75 per cent.

But one source close to the meeting said economists "had picked out the lowest number they could find," and added that officials generally expected 1988 growth of "plus or minus two per cent," down from 2.25 per cent in the current year.

"Estimates (for growth) have been revised down, but not so far as to put down recessions for everybody," he said.

The officials also stressed at the session, headed by President Reagan's Council of Economic Advisers' Chairman Beryl Sprinkel, that the United States must help lead the way out of the stock market crisis threatening world growth though pressure remained on Japan and West Germany to play a greater role.

"The centrepiece will be what happens in the U.S. budget deficit. It's very clear those are the issues that the U.S. has to pay to continue to lead the club," one source said.

"There was no sense that the United States would take a back seat. The U.S. is still critical to the process but it is recognised that other countries have to contribute as well," he added.

Rabat plans tax cuts, wage increases

RABAT (R) — Moroccan Finance Minister Mohammed Berrada told parliament the government planned to reduce taxes, cut interest rates and raise minimum wages next year.

In a speech outlining changes planned in the 1988 budget and reported by the official MAP news agency on Tuesday, Mr. Berrada said company profits tax would be cut from 45 to 40 per cent and personal income tax would not be levied on the first 8,400 dirhams (\$1,050) instead of 6,000 dirhams at present.

He said minimum legal wages in agriculture and industry would be raised by 10 per cent with effect from Jan. 1.

As an investment incentive he announced that interest rates on medium and long term loans, which were cut by two points last April, would be reduced further.

The present rate averages 12 per cent.

The cut in personal income tax will cost the government 350 million dirhams (\$43 million) and benefit about 250,000 wage-earners, Mr. Berrada said.

He said Moroccan company tax was "at a very high level compared to other countries, which discourages any incentive to produce more, while encouraging tax evasion."

To compensate for possible loss in revenue, Mr. Berrada said government rules which allowed financial institutions not to be taxed would be abolished.

He also announced that tax

waivers offered to investors would be reduced from 10 to 5 years and instead of not paying tax at all they would be levied 50 per cent of the normal rate.

Under the present industrial investment code new companies qualify for complete tax holidays of up to 10 years.

Mr. Berrada said the new system would apply once enterprises had covered their costs including amortisation and as soon as they made a profit.

He said the old system was a form of charity producing "passive and ultimately weak entrepreneurs."

Mr. Berrada predicted gross domestic product (GDP) growth in 1988 of between four and five per cent and an inflation rate of six per cent. He said growth this year was one per cent in real

terms and inflation four per cent.

He also forecast a balance of payments deficit equal to two per cent of GDP or the same as this year. He said imports would rise by about seven per cent and exports by 10 per cent, while remittances from emigrant workers and tourism would grow by seven per cent.

He said that in 1988 the state would give "absolute priority to the royal armed forces whose material and human potential will be increased to reinforce their ability to defend the country and its territorial integrity."

This was a reference to the Western Sahara, where Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas have been fighting Morocco for independence since 1976.

Gulf Air expects to break even this year

BAHRAIN (R) — Gulf Air said on Tuesday it would probably break even this year after making a 1986 loss of 1.3 million Bahraini dinars (\$3.5 million).

"We will do a little bit better than last year and maybe break even. (Last year's) one or two million dinar (\$2.7-\$5.4 million) deficit is not a big loss," airline president, Mr. Ali Ibrahim Al Malki, told a news conference.

Gulf Air is jointly owned by Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and Abu Dhabi — made a net profit of 13.7 million dinars (\$6.4 million) in 1985.

Mr. Malki blamed the 1986 loss on lower oil prices. Falling revenue in the region caused expatriate workers — the airline's main customers — to be laid off in large numbers.

He said that with their earnings down, those who remained travelled less and took fewer, shorter holidays.

But Mr. Malki said Gulf Air had agreed with Boeing to lease two new B-767 aircraft for four years, starting in 1988, to meet an expected rise in demand.

Company officials said the terms of the agreement and the U.S. leasing company involved were confidential.

The cost of a B-767 is around \$65-\$70 million and Mr. Malki said it was "more practical and flexible" to lease.

The agreement included an option to buy the U.S.-made aircraft, he said.

Company officials said Gulf Air's needs into the 1990s were under study and it would have been unwise to buy new aircraft before a plan had been formulated.

laid.

Gulf Air, founded in 1950, has 11 Tristars and eight Boeing 737's which fly to around 35 West European and Far Eastern destinations from the Middle East.

Mr. Malki said several countries had refused to grant Gulf Air landing rights, although their national carriers landed in Gulf states owning the airline.

Landing rights "must be reciprocated and this situation corrected," Mr. Malki said. "It will open new markets for us and we can handle it."

Company officials said the IMF of black-mailing African states by demanding tough economic reforms as a condition to lend them funds.

Mr. Musokotwane, in an interview with foreign reporters in Lusaka on Monday night, also called on the World Bank to review its lending clauses and to continue funding projects in Zambia.

The World Bank has suspended funding for development in Zambia because it owes the bank more than \$40 million in debt repayments.

Mr. De Mel told parliament as he announced a "budget for peace" to rebuild the country after four years of ethnic bloodshed which he said had destroyed infrastructure valued at \$2 billion.

He did not say which companies would be sold, but said he expected hundreds of thousands of Sri Lankans to buy shares.

He said steps would be taken to ensure large blocks of shares would not be bought up by companies or well-connected individuals, saying he wanted to avoid "crony capitalism."

"We will thus be emancipating the public enterprises from the

clutches of inefficient bureaucrats and returning the people's assets to their rightful owners — the people themselves," he said.

The Colombo Securities Exchange, set up at the end of 1985, has increased the number of listings to 173 from an initial level of 80. But its turnover is one of the lowest in the world at about 10 million rupees (\$330,000) a week.

Steel, textiles, oil refining and distribution, telecommunications, railways, bus transport and some local liquor industries are controlled by the government.

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Mr. Musok

Group fears scientific 'brain drain' from SDI programme

WASHINGTON (AP) — The "Star Wars" research programme if pursued as vigorously as President Ronald Reagan desires, could drain away scientific talent from the civilian sector and jeopardise the nation's overall economic health, according to a private study released Tuesday.

"The Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) could force American industries to pay higher salaries for scientists and engineers, raising prices of manufactured goods and further eroding our exports," Alice Tepper Marlin, the executive director of the Council on Economic Priorities, said in releasing the study.

"In addition, much of the work being funded is classified secret, which means it would take years before the technology could be transferred to the civilian domain," she added.

The new study was published Tuesday in the form of 234-page

hard-cover book, "Star Wars: The Economic Fallout." It is the product of almost four years of work by the council, a non-profit research organisation based in New York that specialises in studies of national security issues, the environment and corporate social responsibility.

The council bills itself as a "non-aligned, independent" public service organisation, but one that is willing "to adopt a point of view" once a study is completed.

When it comes to Star Wars, known formally as the Strategic Defence Initiative, the council makes clear it has joined the list

of detractors. "The diversion to SDI of government resources on the scale planned by the Reagan administration will seriously weaken the nation's ability to meet the challenges of unemployment, export market loss, dwindling technological leadership and antiquated industrial plants," the study says.

"If we fail to arrest the economic momentum of the SDI juggernaut, we will find ourselves paying for Star Wars well into the next century," it says.

The Star Wars programme is a research effort aimed at developing lasers and other weapons that could be deployed in space and on the ground to automatically shoot down nuclear missiles fired at the United States or its allies.

According to the council's research, the Pentagon has spent \$9.4 billion on Star Wars research

since fiscal 1984 and hopes to spend an additional \$39.2 billion through fiscal 1992.

While precise estimates are impossible at this point, the council asserted it would cost at least \$500 billion and possibly as much as \$1 trillion to actually deploy such a defensive shield.

"Never before has the nation allocated such large sums to any single programme, military or civilian," the study concludes.

Beyond the cost to taxpayers, however, the council focuses on what it predicts will be a massive "brain drain" that it claims the American economy cannot afford.

"In 1986, SDI used an estimated 9,000 engineers, scientists and technicians," the study states. "By 1991, that figure will triple to roughly 28,500 if current budget projections hold true."

Goria gets new government mandate

ROME (Agencies) — Italian President Francesco Cossiga asked outgoing Prime Minister Giovanni Goria on Tuesday to try to form a new government after the collapse of his first administration last week, a presidential spokesman said.

He told reporters that Mr. Goria had accepted with reserve, a normal formula. The outgoing prime minister will announce full acceptance only if he is successful in forming a government.

Mr. Goria's first administration, a coalition of his Christian Democrats, Socialists, Republicans, Social Democrats and

Liberals, resigned on Saturday because of an internal dispute over economic policy.

It was Italy's 47th government since World War II.

On July 28, at age 44, Mr. Goria became Italy's youngest-ever premier. But his government, plagued by acrimony on issues ranging from finances to religion in the schools, lasted 109 days.

The Liberal Party, which received 2.2 per cent of the vote in last June's elections, withdrew from the coalition, complaining that the proposed 1988 national

budget wrongly emphasised higher taxes rather than spending cuts.

Mr. Goria, in a statement to reporters after accepting the mandate, said he would try to rebuild the same coalition.

He said the parties in his outgoing government had declared themselves willing to take part in a new coalition, and that he would work on that basis. He said he intended to immediately begin political consultations because of the pressing economic and institutional needs of the country.

China plans space shuttle programme

PEKING (R) — China, a new force in space exploration, plans to build a shuttle and orbiting station, scientists were quoted as saying on Tuesday.

A shuttle programme complete with space station and a launch-recovery system "has been put on the order of the day," rocket experts at the Astronautics Industry Ministry said.

"China can accomplish the task with its present technology, facilities and design capabilities," the official New China News Agency said. No timetable was given.

The experts said they believed that despite intergovernmental competition China could acquire foreign technology to supplement its own skills to produce large launch vehicles.

The report was given prominence on the front page of the Communist Party newspaper People's Daily.

Last month, China's minister for science and technology told reporters China would one day send astronauts into space. Encouraging discussions on space cooperation had taken place with U.S. scientists, he said.

China has already developed a successful satellite programme and says it has a number of foreign companies queuing to use its launch and recovery services.

S. Africa reports loss of attack plane in Angola

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — A South African airman is missing after his plane crashed on a night mission against Namibian freedom fighters in Angola, the army said on Tuesday.

The army said it was still searching for Captain Andre Staps, 30, whose plane crashed on Sunday during an attack on South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) guerrillas, who are fighting for the independence of South African-ruled Namibia.

South Africa says it has lost 23 men in southern Angola in the past three weeks. It is fighting both SWAPO and the Angolan government, which is backed by the Soviet Union and Cuba.

The army gave no further details about the previously unreported strike against SWAPO.

South Africa reported last week that it was fighting a Soviet-led Angolan offensive against rebels of the pro-Western National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), en-

gaged in a 12-year-old war against the Marxist Luanda government. South Africa has also struck at bases inside Angola from which it says SWAPO is preparing to launch its annual rainy-season offensive into Namibia, ruled by South Africa in defiance of the United Nations.

In Lisbon, Portugal, the leader of UNITA has criticised South Africa, the guerrilla's main foreign benefactor, and stressed his group's independence, according to a statement received Tuesday.

In a note distributed in Lisbon, UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi again criticised the South African claims that its forces intervened last month to help rebels fight off a Cuban and Soviet-backed Angolan offensive.

"No matter what sort of aid, or how much of it, we receive from abroad, UNITA wishes to keep its political and military independence intact in search of peace," the note, signed by Mr. Savimbi, said.

U.S. studies allegations of plot against Kenya

NAIROBI (R) — The U.S. government is investigating allegations that the Ku Klux Klan and a church in North Carolina were plotting to overthrow the Kenyan government, a U.S. embassy statement said on Tuesday.

Washington does not, however, believe the white supremacist organisation is in a position to finance such plots because it is short of money and resources, the statement added.

Kenya's national newspapers made the allegations on Saturday, basing their stories on a letter purportedly written by the minister of the Foscove Christian Church in Boone, North Carolina.

The minister, Kenneth Caswell, had denied he wrote the letter, which asks Ku Klux Klan members to raise \$20 million to protect white rule in South Africa by deposing black African leaders opposed to apartheid.

"Although we as yet have no further details, we would point out that recent law suits and other incidents in the United States have clearly shown that the Klan is in no position to finance plots to overthrow any foreign government as it simply does not have the money and resources," the embassy said.

Seven American missionaries named in the letter as parties to the alleged conspiracy left the country last week after the Kenyan authorities told them they were no longer welcome, official sources said.

The diplomatic missions of Britain and West Germany said they lodged strong protests Monday over Kenyan police beatings and arrests of journalists covering a university riot.

In Washington, a State Department spokesman said the United States has made a similar protest. Diplomats at the Swiss embassy said Switzerland would also protest the incident.

Four journalists from the Western countries were beaten with batons and rifle butts, punched, kicked and slapped Sunday by paramilitary police as they tried to cover a student riot at the University of Nairobi.

Ortega: Contras at odds over site of peace talks

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — President Daniel Ortega and a contra rebel leader, trying to launch mediated talks toward a ceasefire, sharply differ over where the negotiations should take place.

The rebel leader, Arturo Robelo, said Monday the contras were prepared to meet with the designated mediator "in Managua or any other capital in Central America" to present a "serious counterproposal" to Mr. Ortega's ceasefire plan.

Mr. Ortega, on his way home from Washington where he unveiled his government's ceasefire proposal, said in Mexico that the talks should take place in the United States. He said involving another Central American nation in the talks would violate the very pact the truce would help fulfill.

Meanwhile, fighting between the Sandinista government and the U.S.-backed rebels continued in north eastern Nicaragua, where military sources said a rebel attack Monday extensively damaged a rice mill and wounded three civilians and nine soldiers.

In El Salvador, another Central American nation suffering a lengthy civil war, the government appealed a military judge's decision to free three leftist guerrillas held in a 1985 attack that killed six Americans, including four U.S. Marines.

The judge last week ruled the three qualified for El Salvador's new programme granting amnes-

ty to political prisoners. The decision drew sharp criticism from the U.S. State Department.

El Salvador's amnesty programme and the ceasefire efforts in Nicaragua are aimed at fulfilling a peace plan signed on Aug. 7 by the presidents of those two nations plus Costa Rica, Guatemala and Honduras.

Meanwhile a meeting between President Ronald Reagan and House Speaker Jim Wright has failed to soften bitterness over Mr. Wright's high-profile role in Central America's regional peace efforts.

Mr. Wright, an opposition Democrat, sought the meeting Monday to explain his actions in meeting with President Ortega, leaders of the opposition contras and Nicaraguan Cardinal Miguel Obando Y. Bravo, who has been asked to mediate ceasefire negotiations.

But after spending nearly an hour with Mr. Reagan and his top advisers, Mr. Wright described the president as unyielding. Mr. Wright suggested he was stepping in to fill a U.S. foreign-policy void created by the government's refusing to accept diplomatic overtures by the Sandinista government.

"Perhaps if they had an open door policy to people in Central America, those people would go to see me," Mr. Wright said at a luncheon with reporters after the White House meeting.

Manila uncovers major attack after Rivera arrest

MANILA (R) — The Philippine military said on Tuesday that the capture of high Communist Party official Juanito Rivera had already yielded results, rebel plans for large-scale attacks on Manila and other Luzon areas.

Provincial military commander Brigadier-General Bayani Fabic told the state-owned Philippine News Agency that Rivera had given to the military details of planned attacks and other tactical operations by the rebel New People's Army (NPA).

Brig. Fabic, the head of Unified Regional Command Three in Central Luzon, said troops in the area were on double red alert against retaliation by the NPA for the capture on Sunday of Rivera.

The ailing Rivera was presented to the news media on Tuesday as the military's major prize in the Philippine insurgency.

The 54-year-old second highest official in the underground Philippine Communist Party, sat

slumped over a table, a dextrose drip inserted in an arm, hiding his face from the photographers who crowded around for a promised "photo-opportunity."

Dressed in a beige tee shirt and jeans, Rivera hurried his head in his arms and showed only work-worn hands with dirty fingernails during a 30 minute audience with journalists in the office of Military Intelligence Chief General Pedro Sistoza.

Later, Rivera was led back to the hospital in Camp Crame, one of Manila's major military camps, where he is being treated for "prolonged pneumonia."

The drip in his arm was labeled simply "Juan de La Cruz," the Filipino equivalent of John Doe, but Rivera's capture has been hailed as a possible breakthrough in the war against the Communist guerrillas.

The army alleges he occupied the key posts of vice-chairman of the party's Central Committee and Military Commission.

NASA confident of June shuttle launch date

HOUSTON (R) — Changes in design and testing of U.S. space shuttle components are on schedule and will allow the discovery craft to be launched as planned on June 2, the Programme's director said on Monday.

The planned launch will be the first shuttle mission since the United States' worst space accident when the Challenger shuttle exploded 73 seconds after launch on Jan. 28, 1986, killing all seven aboard.

Arnold Aldrich, chief of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) shuttle programme, said the June 2 launch date of Discovery and five crewmen is "very, very tight" with only five days' leeway for unexpected delays.

He said more than 40 changes have been made in the design of the space orbiter's main engines since the Challenger exploded.

Dangerous cracks in high pressure turbine blades have been cured, he said, and a troublesome fuel valve is being tested.

"Each one is a concern that might trip us up but I feel good about the changes we've made," Mr. Aldrich told reporters while visiting Houston to address a business group.

Africa needs 2.7m tonnes of food — WFP

NAIROBI (R) — Fifteen countries in sub-Saharan Africa, led by Ethiopia and Mozambique, need 2.7 million tonnes of relief food to counteract the effects of drought and civil strife, the World Food Programme (WFP) said on Tuesday.

Foreign donors have pledged 1.3 million tonnes, leaving an uncovered deficit of 1.4 million tonnes, the WFP said in a statement telefaxed from its headquarters in Rome.

The organisation said the situation in sub-Saharan Africa had deteriorated so rapidly and unexpectedly that WFP was running short of emergency food stocks.

Ethiopia, where the government estimates the food deficit at 950,000 tonnes, was the worst affected country and was in urgent need of extra lorries to distribute food in the drought-affected northern provinces.

In a separate statement, WFP said Ethiopia's problem was critical and relief agencies feared that unless food reached parts of Tigray province within days, large groups of people could start migrating in search of food.

Mozambique needed 750,000 tonnes of food to feed 3.2 million people in rural areas and 3.3 million people in cities and had so far received piecemeal of 480,000 tonnes.

Drug baron accused of bribery, violence

JACKSONVILLE, Florida (R) — A U.S. prosecutor opening the trial of a reputed Colombian drug kingpin has called him the Henry Ford of cocaine smuggling and accused him of using violence and bribery to build an empire.

U.S. Attorney Richard Merkle said on Monday that Carlos Lehder Rivas, alleged top leader of the world's biggest cocaine ring, made payoffs to the prime minister of the Bahamas and

other Caribbean officials in an effort to protect his operation. "Mr. Lehder... was to cocaine transportation what Henry Ford was to cars," Mr. Merkle told a federal judge after delivering the government's opening statement.

Lehder, who has pleaded not guilty, is being tried on an 11-count 1981 indictment charging that he masterminded shipment of 3.3 tonnes of cocaine into Florida and Georgia in 1979 and

1980. If convicted, he faces up to life in prison plus 165 years. Merkle, addressing jurors in a heavily guarded courtroom, said Lehder was so deeply involved in the drug trade that he once had his own motorcade carry a cocaine-laden suitcase to Los Angeles.

Federal agents have described the trial as the most important drug case in U.S. history. It is expected to last up to three months.

Americans send house keys to Gorbachev

MOSCOW (AP) — Raisa Gorbachev said Monday that Americans are so anxious for her and her husband, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, to visit them during their trip to the United States next month that some are sending house keys with their invitations.

"Every day we get an enormous amount of letters from the Americans," Mrs. Gorbachev said at the opening of an exhibition in Moscow of 19th- and early 20th-century American paintings. "People of all ages of all walks of life write to us."

In a brief but rare question-and-answer session, she told ABC News, "many Americans ask us to visit their towns, cities and states, their farms, their homes. Some of them even send their keys to their houses in the envelopes."

But Mrs. Gorbachev, who plans to travel to the United States with her husband for his Dec. 7 summit meeting with President Ronald Reagan, indicated

they won't be able to leave Washington — at least not on this trip.

Asked if other cities would be added to the itinerary, the wife of the Communist Party chief replied that it is "difficult to say" because the schedule is being finished now.

"Of course, I would like to," she added. "Let's hope there will be other visits."

The national television news programme Vremya (time) showed brief footage of Mrs. Gorbachev cutting a ribbon to open the exhibit. It did not include her remarks about the U.S. visit.

"I would like to express my gratitude and thanks to all those people for their friendliness, for the spirit of goodwill," Mrs. Gorbachev said of the letters her family has received from the United States. "We, of course, are very interested in meeting Americans and the Americans. But our main hope, our common hope together with you, is that as a

result of this summit meeting our world will become a safer place to live."

"Only yesterday we got a letter from Boston, from a teacher," she said. "He expresses in that letter his profound satisfaction that at last we have started together to take out the bricks from the wall of terror. And he hopes that we would be able to construct out of those bricks a monument of peace."

Mr. Reagan and Mrs. Gorbachev are expected to sign a treaty at the summit to ban intermediate-range nuclear missiles.

Mrs. Gorbachev's remarks came after her unannounced appearance at the exhibition opening.

The show, entitled "New Horizons: American Painting 1840-1910" and featuring 65 paintings, is an exchange for "Russia, the Land, the People," which opened in Washington a year ago and toured Chicago, Boston and Los Angeles.

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Nureyev ends Soviet visit

PARIS (AP) — Rudolf Nureyev, dance legend and director of the Paris Opera Ballet, returned Monday from a weekend visit with his ailing mother, his first trip to the Soviet Union since defecting 26 years ago. Nureyev, 49, arrived aboard an Air France flight and was escorted out a side door by police, avoiding reporters who came to meet him. The Soviet media did not mention Nureyev's two-day visit. The Soviet News Agency (TASS) provided pictures Monday of Nureyev's visit to Ufa, a city in the closed industrial zone in the Ural Mountains, showing him walking in the streets and visiting the Bashkir Republic Ballet. No details were provided about his visit with his sick mother, Farida Nureyeva, 84, or with his sister, Rosa Ferdman, 57. Both women had applied for permission to visit in the West but were turned down. In 1961, Nureyev defected while in Paris on tour with Leningrad's Kirov Ballet. The same ballet company is to begin performing in Paris on Tuesday. The company is to perform through Jan. 10.

Singer undergoes cancer treatment

SEATTLE (R) — Spanish operatic tenor Jose Carreras underwent a bone marrow transplant at a Seattle hospital that doctors said they hoped would help him win a battle against leukemia. Carreras, 42, was admitted to the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Centre last week. A small amount of his own marrow was removed from a hip, treated and replaced, and he also underwent extensive radiation and chemotherapy treatment, hospital spokeswoman Susan Edmonds said. About 400 such procedures are performed a year at Fred Hutchinson, more than at any other cancer centre in the world. Carreras recently sang the role of Tony for a new recording of West Side Story and this summer filmed the classical opera La Boheme in Paris. His illness forced him to postpone a September 19 world premiere of Cristobal Colon, an opera about Columbus, in Barcelona, where Carreras was born.

Kidnappers threaten to starve child

MALAGA, Spain (R) — The kidnappers of a five-year-old girl will start starving her on Tuesday unless they get a \$13 million ransom, her father said. Raymond Nakachian, a Lebanese magnate, told reporters he did not have the money. He said he could commit suicide in front of journalists if it could save his daughter's life. His daughter Melodie was kidnapped eight days ago as she was being driven to school in Spain's Costa Del Sol resort of Estepona. Nakachian said he received a recorded message from the kidnappers early on Tuesday together with a picture and a lock of Melodie's hair.

Standards slipping at Bolshoi Ballet

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union's Bolshoi Ballet company has rested on its laurels for too long and allowed its standards to drop, according to a Soviet weekly magazine. The latest edition of Ogonyok blamed chief ballet master Yuri Grigorovich for what it called the company's dull and unimaginative repertoire. It said Grigorovich's insistence that the company perform only his own productions has limited its scope and resulted in a virtual absence of new ideas in choreography. "The Bolshoi Theatre has never been and can never be the theatre of one person, for it is the Bolshoi Theatre," the article said, adding that it always used to bring together the best in Soviet choreography. Ogonyok said the ballet company's decline since the 1970s was also the result of a blindness to criticism. Negative write-ups were dismissed and only favourable critics taken on foreign tours with the theatre. "Unfortunately we cannot get rid of the idea that any word of criticism about our art in the West carries with it evil intent and has a political undertone," the article complained, referring to unenthusiastic reviews during recent tours. Another problem was the fact that many young dancers were motivated more by a thirst for foreign tours than by dedication to their profession, the magazine said. Ogonyok said it hoped it would be able to publish a reply from Grigorovich to the charges listed in the article, but said previous invitations to him to discuss the issue had been turned down.

Former U.S. speaker suffers from cancer

BOSTON (AP) — Former House Speaker Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill Jr. is suffering from rectal cancer and will undergo surgery this week, a hospital official has said. The cancer was located about five inches (13cm) below the surface of the skin and would necessitate removal of the lower six inches (15 cm) of Mr. O'Neill's bowel, said Dr. Richard E. Wilson, chief of oncology at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Dr. Wilson said surgery would be performed Wednesday and be a "very optimistic" all the cancer can be removed. He said it was possible Mr. O'Neill would have to undergo chemotherapy after the operation, but that was not certain. When rectal cancer is detected early, 77 per cent of patients survive at least five years, according to the American Cancer Society. O'Neill, who retired in January after 10 years as speaker of the House of Representatives, was being treated at Sibley Memorial for a "long-standing prostate problem," said Fern Stone, a hospital spokeswoman.

Prince Edward launches boardgame

LONDON (R) — Queen Elizabeth's youngest son, Prince Edward, has launched a new book and boardgame to raise money for charity. Both are based on a television game show which the prince, his sister Princess Anne, and his brother and sister-in-law, the Duke and Duchess of York, hosted last June. Proceeds from the book and game will go to four charities which have already received about £1 million (\$1.75 million) from the show.

Harrison: Work with singer was nightmare

LONDON (R) — Former Beatle George Harrison, now a successful film producer, says working with singing star Madonna and her actor husband Sean Penn on his ill-fated film Shanghai surprise was a nightmare. Interviewed in Monday's edition of the weekly magazine Woman, Harrison said: "We got the wrong script, the wrong director and the wrong stars." The film was panned by the critics and did not do well at the box office. Harrison, who heads the successful independent film company Handmade Films, told Woman magazine: "It was a bloody nightmare. We were lucky to get our money back. The stars' behaviour was pretty bad. They were just very unhappy with each other. They weren't happy working. I haven't seen them from that day to this," he added.

Subway service slowed by graffiti

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — Subway service ran at about half-speed Sunday after public transport authorities sidelined 246 cars that had fallen victim to graffiti, Swedish television reported. The report quoted officials as saying the graffiti was the result of organised activity by youth gangs. Authorities this year decided to take graffiti-infested cars out of service in an effort to induce passengers to react if they saw vandalism in progress. But a ticket-collector told the television on Sunday that he hadn't stopped the gangs he saw spraying graffiti because "they may follow me when I go home and beat me up."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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SAFE MIGHT BE SORRY

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K J 2
♥ 9 6 4
♦ K J 7 2
♣ K 7 6

WEST ♠ 5 3
♥ 10 8 7 4
♦ K 6
♣ 10 9 8 2

EAST ♠ 10 8 7 4
♥ Q J 10 2
♦ Q 6
♣ 8 5 3

SOUTH ♠ A 8 6
♥ A 8 3
♦ A 5 4
♣ A 9 4

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠

It is all very well to have an intimate knowledge of all the techniques available to you as declarer, or defender. They will not be of much use if you do not master when to apply them.

You reach three no trump in quick time. West makes his normal lead of the queen of clubs, and you are faced with your first technical problem: Should you duck the first trick, or not?

Take a pat on the back from us if you decided that it is dangerous to

duck! You might not be able to stand a heart shift, so don't give the defenders the opportunity of finding it.

Now you have to decide how to tackle the diamonds. Should you take the safety play of cashing the king-ace and leading toward the jack, or should you take the finesse? Move to the top of the class if your answer is that you do not know!

How many tricks you need from the diamond suit depends on how many spade tricks you make. If that suit is going to provide three tricks, you need only three diamonds. But if you are going to score only two spade tricks, you must make four diamond tricks. So before you play on diamonds you should take the spade finesse. Therefore, you win the first trick in hand and immediately lead a spade to the jack. When that holds, you need only three tricks in diamonds and now you can afford to take the safety play. You cash the king-ace of that suit, and you are suitably rewarded when her majesty the queen falls on the second round.

You have not only won the contract, but also the admiration of the horde of spectators clustered around your table. Congratulations.